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**FACULTAT DE TRADUCCIÓ I D'INTERPRETACIÓ**

**GRAU DE TRADUCCIÓ I D'INTERPRETACIÓ**

**TREBALL DE FI DE GRAU**

**Curs 2015-2016**

**LA TRADUCCIÓN DEL INGLÉS AL ESPAÑOL  
DE LAS SENTENCIAS DE ADOPCIÓN.  
DERECHO COMPARADO Y TERMINOLOGÍA**

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**Barcelona, Juny de 2016**





## Dades del TFG

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### Títol:

La traducció de l'anglès a l'espanyol de les sentències d'adopció. Dret comparat i terminologia

La traducción del inglés al español de las sentencias de adopción. Derecho comparado y terminología

The translation from English to Spanish of adoption judgments. Comparative law and terminology

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**Estudis:** Grau en Traducció i Interpretació

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## Paraules clau

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traducció jurídica, sentència, adopció, traducció especialitzada, terminologia, dret comparat

traducción jurídica, sentencia, adopción, traducción especializada, terminología, derecho comparado

legal translation, judgment, adoption, specialized translation, terminology, comparative law

## Resum del TFG

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Aquest treball presenta l'anàlisi i l'estudi comparat de les sentències d'adopció, tant espanyoles com estatunidenques, en concret de l'estat de Florida. Per a realitzar aquesta anàlisi s'ha comparat primer la legislació que regula l'adopció en els dos països i s'ha realitzat una llista dels termes més representatius dels textos treballats. Aquests termes s'han recollit en fitxes terminològiques, amb la finalitat d'obtenir una anàlisi completa. La metodologia utilitzada consta de tres parts: la comparació de legislacions, el buidatge lèxic i la creació de fitxes terminològiques de traducció.

Este trabajo presenta el análisis y el estudio comparado de las sentencias de adopción, tanto españolas como estadounidenses, en concreto del estado de Florida. Para realizar dicho análisis se ha comparado primero la legislación que regula la adopción en ambos países y se ha realizado una lista de los términos más representativos de los textos trabajados. Dichos términos se han recogido en fichas terminológicas, con el fin de obtener un análisis completo. La metodología utilizada consta de tres partes: la comparación de legislaciones, el vaciado léxico y la creación de fichas terminológicas de traducción.

This paper presents the analysis and the comparative study of adoption judgments from Spain and the United States, specifically from the State of Florida. To carry out this analysis I first compared the legislation governing adoption in both countries and I made a list of the most representative terms of the texts I worked on. These terms have been collected in terminological records, in order to obtain a complete analysis. The methodology consists of three parts: the comparison of laws, the term excerption and the creation of terminological records of translation.

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# 1. INTRODUCCIÓN

El siguiente trabajo presenta el análisis y el estudio comparado de una sentencia de adopción en el marco de la asignatura denominada Trabajo de Fin de Grado. Este trabajo se centra en el análisis de textos de carácter jurídico, en concreto, en el análisis de las sentencias de adopción. Cuando pensamos en la palabra ‘sentencia’ nos pueden venir distintos conceptos a la mente, al igual que distintas sentencias, como puede ser la sentencia de divorcio, aunque pocas veces pensamos en las sentencias de adopción en primer lugar. Este hecho puede que se deba a que la gente no es consciente que para poder adoptar se necesita la autorización de un juez, y que por lo tanto se debe de dictar sentencia. En este trabajo se analizarán dos sentencias de adopción, una correspondiente a Florida (Estados Unidos) y la otra correspondiente a España. Para analizar la sentencia estadounidense me he basado en las leyes del estado de Florida, estado del que proviene dicha sentencia, ya que la legislación no es la misma en todos los estados. Para realizar dicho análisis veremos primero la legislación que regula la adopción en ambos países y la compararemos. Además se realizará una lista de los términos más representativos de los textos trabajados en fichas terminológicas, con el fin de obtener un análisis completo.

## *1.1. Metodología y objetivos*

Como ya he mencionado anteriormente este trabajo se centra en las sentencias de adopción, uno de los ámbitos de un gran campo de estudio como es el derecho. El objetivo principal es analizar y comparar sentencias reales.

El trabajo estará formado por tres bloques. El primero se basará en el análisis y la comparación de las legislaciones tanto española como estadounidense en el campo de la adopción. Se analizarán por una parte individualmente y por otra conjuntamente. Después de analizar las principales características del español y del inglés jurídico en el ámbito de las adopciones, destacaré las principales diferencias entre los dos y las dificultades entre ambas sentencias y su terminología.

El segundo bloque constará de una lista de términos recogidos de las sentencias para poder empezar con el bloque tres. Esta lista constará de términos extraídos de la sentencia estadounidense y una propuesta de traducción.

El último bloque se basará en el análisis terminológico de los términos extraídos de dichas sentencias. Después de analizar las características terminológicas (a través de la ficha que se puede consultar más adelante) he destacado los problemas surgidos y las propuestas de solución aportadas.

## **2. COMPARACIÓN ENTRE EL SISTEMA JURÍDICO ESPAÑOL Y EL ESTADOUNIDENSE**

### ***2.1. La adopción***

La adopción es el estado jurídico mediante el cual se confiere al adoptado la situación de hijo del o de los adoptantes, y a éstos, los deberes y derechos inherentes a la relación paterno-filial. La adopción es el vínculo filial creado por el derecho.<sup>1</sup>

### ***2.2. Diferencia entre sentencia y auto***

Se dictarán autos cuando se decidan recursos contra providencias o decretos, cuando se resuelva sobre admisión o inadmisión de demanda, reconvención, acumulación de acciones, admisión o inadmisión de la prueba, aprobación judicial de transacciones, acuerdos de mediación y convenios, medidas cautelares y nulidad o validez de las actuaciones.<sup>2</sup>

También revestirán la forma de auto las resoluciones que versen sobre presupuestos procesales, anotaciones e inscripciones registrales y cuestiones incidentales, tengan o no señalada en esta ley tramitación especial, siempre que en tales casos la ley exigiera decisión del Tribunal, así como las que pongan fin a las actuaciones de una instancia o recurso antes de que concluya su tramitación ordinaria, salvo que, respecto de éstas últimas, la ley hubiera dispuesto que deban finalizar por decreto.<sup>2</sup>

Se dictará sentencia para poner fin al proceso, en primera o segunda instancia, una vez que haya concluido su tramitación ordinaria prevista en la ley. También se resolverán

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<sup>1</sup> María de Montserrat Pérez Contreras, *Derecho de familia y sucesiones: Colección Cultura Jurídica*. México: Nostra, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Ley 1/2000, de 7 de enero, de Enjuiciamiento Civil, art. 206, apartado 1, punto 2º, BOE nº 7 del 08/01/2000.



mediante sentencia los recursos extraordinarios y los procedimientos para la revisión de sentencias firmes.<sup>3</sup>

En el caso de la adopción se resuelve por auto ya que se trata de la inscripción de los nuevos apellidos de un menor en el Registro Civil.

### **3. LEGISLACIÓN ESPAÑOLA**

La legislación española sobre la adopción se recoge en el Título VII del Código Civil Español, concretamente entre los artículos 172 y 180 (Capítulo V). En el caso de Catalunya es distinto, ya que dispone de vecindad civil propia. Por lo tanto, en este territorio la adopción está regulada por:

*Llei 37/91, de 30 de desembre, sobre mesures de protecció dels menors desemparats i de l'adopció (modificada per la Llei 8/95, de 27 de juliol, d'atenció i protecció dels infants i adolescents i de modificació de la Llei 37/91).*

*Decret 337/1995, de 28 de desembre, sobre l'acreditació i el funcionament de les institucions col·laboradores d'integració familiar i de les entitats col·laboradores d'adopció internacional.*

*Reglament de protecció dels menors desemparats i de l'adopció (Decret 7/1997, de 7 de gener i Decret 127/97, de 27 de maig).*

*Llei 13/1997, de 19 de novembre de 1997, de creació de l'Institut Català de l'Acolliment i de l'Adopció.*

Los artículos en los que se habla de la adopción del Código Civil<sup>4</sup> son bastante concisos. Los artículos 172, 173 y 174 recogen la guarda y el acogimiento, conceptos que se explicarán más adelante. Es a partir del artículo 175 donde se nos habla de la adopción; de los requisitos para adoptar y qué personas no pueden ser adoptadas, entre otros.

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<sup>3</sup> Ley 1/2000, de 7 de enero, de Enjuiciamiento Civil, art. 206, apartado 1, punto 3º, BOE nº 7 del 08/01/2000.

<sup>4</sup> Código Civil Español, «Capítulo V: De la adopción y otras formas de protección de menores», publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.

Además del Código Civil también disponemos de leyes sobre la adopción. Es a partir de la entrada en vigor de la Ley 21/1997, de 11 de noviembre<sup>5</sup>, cuando en España se produce un cambio radical en la concepción de la institución jurídica de la adopción, ya que la ley induce dos principios fundamentales en los que se basa la adopción: la configuración de la misma como un elemento de plena integración familiar y el interés del niño adoptado que se sobrepone a los otros intereses legítimos que se dan en el proceso de la constitución de la adopción.<sup>6</sup>

Para realizar este análisis me centraré en el Código Civil.

### ***3.1. Diferencias entre guarda, acogimiento y adopción***

Si vamos al Capítulo V del Código Civil podremos ver que los cuatro primeros artículos no van dirigidos a la adopción, sino que nos hablan de guarda y acogimiento. A continuación veremos las diferencias entre estos.

#### *Guarda*

Como redacta el Código Civil, «Cuando los padres o tutores, por circunstancias graves, no puedan cuidar al menor, podrán solicitar de la entidad pública competente que ésta asuma su guarda durante el tiempo necesario»<sup>7</sup>.

Existen distintos tipos de guarda. La «simple guarda» o «guarda legal», es una situación transitoria en que se encuentran determinados menores que, aun no estando actualmente en situación de desamparo, corren el riesgo de estarlo. Es decir, se trata de una actividad preventiva de la Administración, para evitar que llegue a producirse efectivamente el desamparo.<sup>8</sup> A la guarda se refieren especialmente los números 2, 3, 4, y 5 del art. 172 del Código Civil<sup>9</sup>.

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<sup>5</sup> Ley 21/1987, de 11 de noviembre, por la que se modifican determinados artículos del Código Civil y de la Ley de Enjuiciamiento Civil en materia de adopción. (BOE núm. 275, 17/11/1987, pp. 34158-34162).

<sup>6</sup> Adopcon.org, Adopción nacional (España). < <http://adopcion.org/> >

<sup>7</sup> Código Civil Español, «Capítulo V: De la adopción y otras formas de protección de menores», artículo 172-2, pfo. 1, publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.

<sup>8</sup> Isaac Tena Piazuelo, *Panorama de la guarda administrativa de menores tras la ley de protección jurídica de 1996*. Zaragoza: Universidad de Zaragoza.

<sup>9</sup> Código Civil Español, «Capítulo V: De la adopción y otras formas de protección de menores», artículo 172-2, pfo. 1, publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.

### Acogimiento

El acogimiento familiar es una forma de protección al menor prevista en el Código Civil<sup>10</sup>, que produce la plena participación del mismo en la vida de familia de acogida e impone a quien lo recibe las obligaciones de velar por él, tenerlo en su compañía, alimentarlo, educarlo y procurarle una formación integral. La principal diferencia es que con la adopción se produce una integración plena en la familia también desde el punto de vista jurídico (con la adopción se adquiere la filiación), cosa que no ocurre con el acogimiento familiar, ya que en este caso no se produce una ruptura jurídica con la familia de origen.<sup>10</sup>

Existen distintos tipos de acogimiento: acogimiento familiar simple, acogimiento familiar preadoptivo, acogimiento familiar permanente y acogimiento familiar y residencial.

El acogimiento familiar se puede constituir por resolución administrativa, cuando todas las partes implicadas están de acuerdo o por resolución judicial, cuando los padres no consienten en el acogimiento familiar. La adopción siempre se constituye por resolución judicial.<sup>11</sup>

### Adopción

Es una de las formas de adquirir la filiación, es decir, de pasar a formar parte de una determinada familia. Por lo tanto, la adopción se diferencia de las medias anteriormente comentadas, pues en dichos casos el menor no pierde los vínculos jurídicos con su familia biológica. En cambio, una vez producida la adopción, se adquiere una nueva filiación, perdiendo la anterior. La adopción tiene carácter permanente y el adoptado se convierte a todos los efectos en hijo del adoptante.

Cuando queda constituida la adopción del menor, entre padres e hijos adoptivos surgen idénticos derechos y obligaciones a los que existen por la filiación biológica.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Código Civil Español. «Capítulo V: De la adopción y otras formas de protección de menores», artículo 173, publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.

<sup>11</sup> Asociación estatal de acogimiento familiar, Acogimiento familiar y adopción. < <http://www.aseaf.org/>>

<sup>12</sup> Pablo Abascal Monedero, Daniel Balpuesta Contreras, Concepción Nieto Morales, *Guía de intervención administrativa y judicial con menores de protección*. Madrid: Dykinson, 2014.

### **3.2. Código Civil**

#### La adopción

A continuación se incluyen algunos artículos del Código Civil para poder hacer más adelante la comparación con la legislación estadounidense.

#### Artículo 175<sup>13</sup>

1. La adopción requiere que el adoptante sea mayor de veinticinco años. En la adopción por ambos cónyuges basta que uno de ellos haya alcanzado dicha edad. En todo caso, el adoptante habrá de tener, por lo menos, catorce años más que el adoptado.
2. Únicamente podrán ser adoptados los menores no emancipados. Por excepción, será posible la adopción de un mayor de edad o de un menor emancipado cuando, inmediatamente antes de la emancipación, hubiere existido una situación no interrumpida de acogimiento o convivencia, iniciada antes de que el adoptando hubiere cumplido los catorce años.
3. No puede adoptarse:
  1. A un descendiente.
  2. A un pariente en segundo grado de la línea colateral por consanguinidad o afinidad.
  3. A un pupilo por su tutor hasta que haya sido aprobada definitivamente la cuenta general justificada de la tutela.
  4. Nadie puede ser adoptado por más de una persona, salvo que la adopción se realice conjunta o sucesivamente por ambos cónyuges. El matrimonio celebrado con posterioridad a la adopción permite al cónyuge la adopción de los hijos de su consorte. En caso de muerte del adoptante, o cuando el adoptante sufra la exclusión prevista en el artículo 179, es posible una nueva adopción del adoptado.

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<sup>13</sup> Código Civil Español, «Capítulo V: De la adopción y otras formas de protección de menores», Artículo 175, publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.

#### Artículo 178<sup>14</sup>

El contenido del artículo 178 no figura en la legislación del Estado de Florida. En él se especifica que una vez un menor es adoptado se eliminan sus vínculos con la familia biológica, excepto algunos casos.

1. La adopción produce la extinción de los vínculos jurídicos entre el adoptado y su familia anterior.
2. Por excepción subsistirán los vínculos jurídicos con la familia del progenitor que, según el caso, corresponda:
  1. Cuando el adoptado sea hijo del cónyuge del adoptante, aunque el consorte hubiere fallecido.
  2. Cuando sólo uno de los progenitores haya sido legalmente determinado, siempre que tal efecto hubiere sido solicitado por el adoptante, el adoptado mayor de doce años y el progenitor cuyo vínculo haya de persistir.
3. Lo establecido en los apartados anteriores se entiende sin perjuicio de lo dispuesto sobre impedimentos matrimoniales.

## 4. LEGISLACIÓN ESTADOUNIDENSE

Dado que la sentencia que se va a analizar en inglés pertenece al Estado de Florida, he decidido centrarme en analizar la legislación de este para evitar contradicciones con la legislación de otros estados, y a partir de aquí compararla con la española. La ley del estado de Florida se centra en el capítulo 63 (del 63.012 al 63.236)<sup>15</sup>. La Ley de adopción de Florida está cubierta en el Título VI, Capítulo 63 de la Legislatura del estado de Florida. Hay diferentes formas de adopción, incluida la extranjera, la aprobación por acuerdo, la adopción mediante madre de alquiler, la agencia de adopción y la adopción independiente. La Ley de adopción que se encuentra en el Título VI, Capítulo 63 se aplica a todas las formas de adopción en Florida, incluyendo la adopción privada.

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<sup>14</sup> Código Civil Español, «Capítulo V: De la adopción y otras formas de protección de menores», artículo 178, publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.

<sup>15</sup> Estados Unidos, Florida. Title VI – Civil practice and procedure, Chapter 63. Florida Statutes, 2010.

En comparación con la legislación española, la legislación estadounidense es muy extensa. Por este motivo me centraré en analizar los aspectos estrechamente relacionados con las sentencias y la legislación española.

Aunque en la legislación estadounidense no aparece implícitamente que existan distintos conceptos como serían la guarda, el acogimiento y la adopción, aparece un artículo en el que habla de *guardians* (guardadores en España)<sup>16</sup>.

***Guardians designated; proof of commitment.—***

*(1) For minors who have been placed for adoption with an adoption entity, other than an intermediary, such adoption entity shall be the guardian of the person of the minor and has the responsibility and authority to provide for the needs and welfare of the minor.*

*(2) For minors who have been voluntarily surrendered to an intermediary through an execution of a consent to adoption, the intermediary shall be responsible for the minor until the time a court orders preliminary approval of placement of the minor in the prospective adoptive home, after which time the prospective adoptive parents shall become guardians pending finalization of adoption, subject to the intermediary's right and responsibility to remove the child from the prospective adoptive home if the removal is deemed by the intermediary to be in the best interests of the child. The intermediary may not remove the child without a court order unless the child is in danger of imminent harm. The intermediary does not become responsible for the minor child's medical bills that were incurred before taking physical custody of the child after the execution of adoption consents. Prior to the court's entry of an order granting preliminary approval of the placement, the intermediary shall have the responsibility and authority to provide for the needs and welfare of the minor. A minor may not be placed in a prospective adoptive home until that home has received a favorable preliminary home study, as provided in s. 63.092, completed and approved within 1 year before such placement in the prospective home. The provisions of s. 627.6578 shall remain in effect notwithstanding the guardianship provisions in this section.*

Otro aspecto que cabe destacar es que en la ley del estado de Florida hay un artículo específico para la definición de los términos que van a aparecer a lo largo de este capítulo.

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<sup>16</sup> Estados Unidos, Florida. Title VI – Civil practice and procedure, Chapter 63, 63.052. Florida Statutes, 2010.

**63.032 Definitions.**—As used in this chapter, the term:

(1) “Abandoned” means a situation in which the parent or person having legal custody of a child, while being able, makes little or no provision for the child’s support or makes little or no effort to communicate with the child, which situation is sufficient to evince an intent to reject parental responsibilities. If, in the opinion of the court, the efforts of such parent or person having legal custody of the child to support and communicate with the child are only marginal efforts that do not evince a settled purpose to assume all parental duties, the court may declare the child to be abandoned. In making this decision, the court may consider the conduct of a father towards the child’s mother during her pregnancy.

(2) “Adoption” means the act of creating the legal relationship between parent and child where it did not exist, thereby declaring the child to be legally the child of the adoptive parents and their heir at law and entitled to all the rights and privileges and subject to all the obligations of a child born to such adoptive parents in lawful wedlock.

(3) “Adoption entity” means the department, a child-caring agency registered under s. 409.176, an intermediary, a Florida child-placing agency licensed under s. 63.202, or a child-placing agency licensed in another state which is licensed by the department to place children in the State of Florida.

(4) “Adoption plan” means an arrangement made by a birth parent or other individual having a legal right to custody of a minor, born or to be born, with an adoption entity in furtherance of placing the minor for adoption.

(5) “Adult” means a person who is not a minor. [...] <sup>17</sup>

Como en la legislación española, en la estadounidense también disponemos de un artículo en el que se menciona qué personas pueden y qué personas no pueden adoptar. Además, hay algunos artículos que complementan este, ya que podemos encontrar más adelante artículos que nos informan de qué personas pueden ser eximidas de adoptar, la familia social, el consentimiento para adoptar y su revocación en algunos casos, etc.

**63.042 Who may be adopted; who may adopt.**—

(1) Any person, a minor or an adult, may be adopted.

(2) The following persons may adopt:

(a) A husband and wife jointly;

(b) An unmarried adult; or

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<sup>17</sup> Estados Unidos, Florida. Title VI – Civil practice and procedure, Chapter 63, 63.032. Florida Statutes, 2010.

*(c) A married person without the other spouse joining as a petitioner, if the person to be adopted is not his or her spouse, and if:*

*1. The other spouse is a parent of the person to be adopted and consents to the adoption; or*

*2. The failure of the other spouse to join in the petition or to consent to the adoption is excused by the court for good cause shown or in the best interest of the child.*

*(3) No person eligible under this section shall be prohibited from adopting solely because such person possesses a physical disability or handicap, unless it is determined by the court or adoption entity that such disability or handicap renders such person incapable of serving as an effective parent.*

*(4) No person eligible under this section shall be prohibited from adopting solely because he or she desires to educate the adopted child at home.<sup>18</sup>*

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<sup>18</sup> Estados Unidos, Florida. Title VI – Civil practice and procedure, Chapter 63, 63.042. Florida Statutes, 2010.



## **5. COMPARACIÓN ENTRE LA LEGISLACIÓN ESPAÑOLA Y ESTADOUNIDENSE**

Después de haber analizado las dos legislaciones podemos ver que hay algunas similitudes y algunas diferencias entre ellas y que son dignas de comentar.

Una de las primeras características que podemos destacar son los subapartados que tienen cada una de las legislaciones. La legislación estadounidense, a diferencia de la española, contiene una gran cantidad de subapartados, aunque estos puedan ser más cortos o más largos.

También hay algunos aspectos que son fundamentales y que aparecen en ambas legislaciones, como son los artículos en los que se enumeran las personas que pueden adoptar, quien puede ser adoptado, etc.

Uno de los aspectos que es distinto entre ambas legislaciones es el artículo 63.042<sup>19</sup>. Este artículo establece que los tribunales pueden determinar si un menor adoptado puede continuar comunicándose con sus hermanos y otros familiares. La ley establece que aun cuando los derechos de los padres han sido terminados y un niño es adoptado legalmente, el tribunal podrá aprobar comunicación posterior a la adopción y la correspondencia con sus hermanos y otros familiares.

Una de las conclusiones que he sacado al analizar las dos legislaciones es que la legislación estadounidense es mucho más extensa y que por lo tanto es mucho más específica y más detallista en algunos conceptos. En cambio la española es mucho más simple y concisa aunque no exhaustiva.

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<sup>19</sup> Estados Unidos, Florida. Title VI – Civil practice and procedure, Chapter 63, 63.042. Florida Statutes, 2010.

## 6. GLOSARIO DE TÉRMINOS

Uno de los objetivos de este trabajo es realizar un análisis terminológico de las sentencias escogidas. Así pues, antes de todo se realizará un glosario de los términos a analizar y a continuación se elaborará el análisis mediante unas fichas terminológicas. En estas fichas tendremos el término con su correspondiente definición y el contexto, además de las referencias utilizadas para obtener dicha información.

A continuación podemos ver la tabla de los términos que se van a analizar:

<b>Término en inglés</b>	<b>Término en español</b>
adjudge	adjudicar
Adoption and Safe Families Act	Ley de adopción y acogimiento familiar
adoption disruption	suspensión de la adopción
adoption dissolution	terminación de la adopción
adoption review committee	comisión de tutela y guarda de menores
adoption supervisor	evaluador
adoptive applicant	solicitante de adopción
adoptive home	hogar funcional
affidavit	declaración de idoneidad
age of maturity	mayoría de edad
attorney general	fiscal general
caregiver	guardador
caretaker	guardador
Center for Family and Child Enrichment	centro de protección
chattel	bien mueble
child welfare	bienestar infantil
conclusions of law	razonamiento jurídico
custody	custodia / guarda
customary	consuetudinario
CWLA	liga de bienestar infantil de Estados Unidos
DCF [Department of Children and Families]	Equipo de Atención a la Infancia y la Adolescencia

due process clause	cláusula del debido proceso
findings of fact	antecedente de hecho
former family	familia anterior
foster	acoger
foster care	guarda
foster child	menor en acogida
foster parents	familia de acogida
guardian Ad Litem	tutor o curador ad litem
guardianship	tutela
minor children	menor
order	ordenar
parental right	patria potestad
permanent guardianship	tutela permanente
petition	solicitar
petitioner	demandante
safeguard	proteger

## 7. FICHAS TERMINOLÓGICAS

Para realizar el análisis terminológico me centraré en unos campos específicos: término, categoría gramatical, definición y contexto. En algunos casos se añadirán el ámbito, la relación con otros términos y notas. A continuación se analizarán los términos de la tabla anterior.

Inglés	<b>Término:</b>
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b>
	<b>Definición:</b>
	<b>Referencia:</b>
	<b>Contexto:</b>
	<b>Referencia:</b>
	<b>Ámbito:</b>
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b>
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b>
	<b>Definición:</b>
	<b>Referencia:</b>
	<b>Contexto:</b>
	<b>Referencia:</b>
	<b>Ámbito:</b>
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> adjudge
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> verbo
	<b>Definición:</b> To pass on juridically, to decide, settle, or decree, or to sentence or condemn. Judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction; equivalent of convicted and sentenced. Implies a judicial determination of a fact, and the entry of a judgment.
	<b>Referencia:</b> West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of Amercian, English, and Civil Law Jurisdiccitions</i> . Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.
	<b>Contexto:</b> Accordingly, it is ORDERED and <b>ADJUDGED</b> that John Doe and James Doe be declared the legal children of Petitioner.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> adjudicar
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> verbo
	<b>Definición:</b> 1. tr. Asignar o atribuir algo a una persona o a una cosa.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ª ed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> De esta forma, la finalidad de protección que el tribunal pretende ejercer cuando <b>adjudica</b> la guarda al progenitor nacional, en muchos casos deja de ser adecuada e incluso legal, y puede tener como efecto general que el progenitor extranjero se lleve consigo al

	menor evadiendo la justicia incluso antes de haberse iniciado el procedimiento de crisis familiar, precisamente por conocer la tendencia de protección indiscriminada al nacional.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Soletto, Helena, <i>Las medidas provisionales en los procesos de familia</i> [en línea]. Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. Valencia: Tirant lo Blanch, 2002. < <a href="http://e-archivo.uc3m.es/bitstream/handle/10016/10258/medidas_soletto_2002.pdf?sequence=5">http://e-archivo.uc3m.es/bitstream/handle/10016/10258/medidas_soletto_2002.pdf?sequence=5</a> > [Consulta: 3 mayo 2016].
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> Adoption and Safe Families Act
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) was signed into law on November 1997. ASFA was enacted in an attempt to correct problems that critics claimed were inherent in the foster care system that deterred the adoption of children with special needs. The Act was designed to improve the safety of children, to promote adoption and other permanent homes for children who need them and to support families. The law requires Child Protective Services (CPS) to provide more timely and focused assessment and intervention services to the children and families that are served within the CPS system. The biggest change to the law was how ASFA amended Title IV-E of the Social Security Act regarding funding.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Legal Definitions & Legal Terms Defined, <i>Free legal dictionary</i> [en línea]. 2016. < <a href="http://definitions.uslegal.com/">http://definitions.uslegal.com/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> This Court finds merit in the Petitioner and the Children's equal protection claim and further finds that the statute infringes on

	the Children's right to permanency pursuant to the <b>Adoption and Safe Families Act</b> of 1997, adopted in Chapter 39 of the Florida Statutes.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> Ley de adopción y acogimiento familiar
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> [...] en ella se contempla, por primera vez en nuestro marco jurídico, el interés de los niños/as a adoptar por encima del de los adoptantes y se explicita la plena consciencia de que es una Ley de carácter terapéutico, recomendando el desarrollo de medidas amplias preventivas a fin de evitar situaciones extremas.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Pedreira Massa, J.L., «Historia de la legislación para la infancia en España: Una revisión crítica». <i>Revista de la asociación española de neuropsiquiatría</i> . Vol. XII, nº 42 (1992), pp. 215-220.
	<b>Contexto:</b> En España rige la <b>Ley de Adopción y Acogimiento Familiar</b> del año 1987, con modificaciones a la misma realizadas en enero de 1996. El organismo competente es el Ministerio de Trabajo y Asuntos Sociales, estando transferidas todas las competencias en materia de adopción a las respectivas Comunidades Autónomas.
	<b>Referencia:</b> AIPAME, Asociación Internacional para la Protección y Ayuda de los menores del Este. < <a href="http://www.aipame.org/2012/somos.htm">http://www.aipame.org/2012/somos.htm</a> > [Consulta: 25 abril 2016].
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción

	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b> En esta ocasión he decidido no hacer una traducción literal, palabra por palabra, sino que he utilizado el nombre de la ley española.

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> adoption disruption
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Adoption disruption is the interruption of an adoption prior to finalization. It is also called a "failed adoption" or a "failed placement."
	<b>Referencia:</b> Legal Definitions & Legal Terms Defined, <i>Free legal dictionary</i> [en línea]. 2016. < <a href="http://definitions.uslegal.com/">http://definitions.uslegal.com/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> Applicants who have experienced an <b>adoption disruption or dissolution</b> in the past are carefully evaluated but are not excluded from adoption on that basis alone.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b> adoption dissolution
	<b>Notas:</b> Normalmente se usa conjuntamente con <i>dissolution: adoption disruption or dissolution</i> .
Español	<b>Término:</b> suspensión de la adopción
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> <u>Suspensión:</u> 1. f. Acción y efecto de suspender. <u>Adoptar:</u> 1. f. Acción de adoptar.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ªed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].



	<p><b>Contexto:</b> <b>Terminación y suspensión de la adopción</b> internacional</p> <p>Las solicitudes de adopción internacional concluyen definitivamente por los siguientes motivos:</p> <p>Que haya sido constituida judicialmente la adopción y realizados los informes de seguimiento. [...]</p>
	<p><b>Referencia</b></p> <p>Gobierno de Cantabria, <i>Adopción internacional</i>. Cantabria: Consejería de empleo y bienestar social. &lt;<a href="http://www.serviciosocialescantabria.org/uploads/documentos/Adopcion%20Internacional.pdf">http://www.serviciosocialescantabria.org/uploads/documentos/Adopcion%20Internacional.pdf</a>&gt; [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b> terminación de la adopción</p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>

Inglés	<p><b>Término:</b> adoption dissolution</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> Adoption dissolution is the interruption or "failure" of an adoption after finalization. It is usually initiated by the parents via a court petition, much like a divorce, to which it is analogous.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Legal Definitions &amp; Legal Terms Defined, <i>Free legal dictionary</i> [en línea]. 2016. &lt;<a href="http://http://definitions.uslegal.com/">http:// http://definitions.uslegal.com/</a>&gt; [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> Applicants who have experienced an <b>adoption disruption or dissolution</b> in the past are carefully evaluated but are not excluded from adoption on that basis alone.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b> adoption disruption</p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b> Normalmente se usa conjuntamente con <i>disruption: adoption</i></p>

	<i>disruption or dissolution.</i>
Español	<b>Término:</b> terminación de la adopción
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> <u>Terminación:</u> 1. f. Acción y efecto de terminar o terminarse. <u>Adoptar:</u> 1. f. Acción de adoptar.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ªed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto: Terminación y suspensión de la adopción</b> internacional Las solicitudes de adopción internacional concluyen definitivamente por los siguientes motivos: Que haya sido constituida judicialmente la adopción y realizados los informes de seguimiento. [...]
	<b>Referencia</b> Gobierno de Cantabria, <i>Adopción internacional</i> . Cantabria: Consejería de empleo y bienestar social. < <a href="http://www.serviciosocialescantabria.org/uploads/documentos/Adopcion%20Internacional.pdf">http://www.serviciosocialescantabria.org/uploads/documentos/Adopcion%20Internacional.pdf</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b> suspensión de la adopción
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> adoption review committee
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> The purpose of this committee is to review specific circumstances where the adoptive applicants' home study may not be recommended for approval or in case situations which present challenging issues.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Community partnership for children. < <a href="http://www.communitypartnershipforchildren.org/zupload/us">http://www.communitypartnershipforchildren.org/zupload/us</a>

	<p><a href="er/policies/as450adoptionreviewcommittee.pdf">er/policies/as450adoptionreviewcommittee.pdf</a>&gt; [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> Applicants who have been convicted of any felony specified in section 39.0138(3) within the last five years cannot be considered for approval until five years after the violation was committed and then must be referred to the <b>adoption review committee</b>.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>
Español	<p><b>Término:</b> comisión de tutela y guarda de menores</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> Declarada la situación de riesgo de un menor, la Comisión Provincial de Tutela y Guarda de Menores adoptará las medidas de apoyo familiar dirigidas a procurar la satisfacción de necesidades básicas y promover su desarrollo integral, mejorar su medio familiar y establecer las medidas necesarias a fin de favorecer que desaparezcan los factores que dieron lugar a la situación de riesgo.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Ley 5/2014, de 9 de octubre, de Protección Social y Jurídica de la Infancia y la Adolescencia de Castilla-La Mancha. «Título II, Capítulo III, Artículo 36». (BOE núm. 42, 18/02/2015, pp. 13217-13258).</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> 1. Cuando la <b>Comisión Provincial de Tutela y Guarda de Menores</b> tuviera conocimiento de la existencia de una situación de riesgo de un menor, en alguno de los supuestos definidos en el artículo 34.2 de la presente ley, a través de propuesta razonada de los servicios sociales de atención primaria, de la sección competente en</p>

	<p>materia de protección de menores o de cualquier otra entidad pública, así como por denuncia de un particular, procederá la declaración de la situación de riesgo mediante acuerdo motivado de la misma.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia</b></p> <p>Ley 5/2014, de 9 de octubre, de Protección Social y Jurídica de la Infancia y la Adolescencia de Castilla-La Mancha. «Título II, Capítulo III, Artículo 36». (BOE núm. 42, 18/02/2015, pp. 13217-13258).</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b> En esta ocasión he decidido no hacer una traducción literal, palabra por palabra, sino que he utilizado el nombre del organismo equivalente en España.</p>

Inglés	<p><b>Término:</b> adoption supervisor</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b></p> <p><u>Adoption:</u> Legal process pursuant to state statute in which a child's legal rights and duties toward his natural parents are terminated and similar rights and duties toward his adoptive parents are substituted. To take into one's family the child of another and give him or her the rights, privileges, and duties of a child and heir. The procedure is entirely statutory and has no historical basis in common law. Most adoptions are through agency placements.</p> <p><u>Supervisor:</u> The term 'supervisor' means "any individual having authority, in the interest of the employer, to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline other employees, or responsibly to direct them, or to adjust their grievances, or effectively to recommend such action, if in connection with the foregoing the exercise of such authority is not of a merely routine or clerical nature, but requires the use of independent judgment."</p>

	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of Amercian, English, and Civil Law Jurisdiccions</i>. Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.</p> <p>Legal Definitions &amp; Legal Terms Defined, <i>Free legal dictionary</i>. 2016. &lt;<a href="http://definitions.uslegal.com/">http://definitions.uslegal.com/</a>&gt; [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> The Guardian Ad Litem Program presented the testimony of Yves Francois, <b>Adoption Supervisor</b> for the Center for Family and Child Enrichment.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>
Español	<p><b>Término:</b> evaluador</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> Es importante entender el proceso de valoración dentro de este marco amplio, pues encuadra nuestro papel como evaluadores en un momento crucial de la toma de decisiones. De acuerdo con este papel, no debemos informar ni formar, debiendo ser conscientes de cuál es nuestro cometido, que aunque de suma relevancia, no deja de ser parcial en lo que es todo el proceso de adopción.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Bermejo Cuadrillero, Fernando Antonio; Juan Alonso Casalilla Galán y Asunción Romero González. <i>Manual para la valoración de la idoneidad en adopción internacional</i> [en línea]. 2ª ed. Madrid: Instituto madrileño del menor y la familia, 2008. &lt;<a href="http://www.madrid.org/cs/Satellite?blobcol=urldata&amp;blobhe">http://www.madrid.org/cs/Satellite?blobcol=urldata&amp;blobhe</a></p>

	<p><a href="#">ader=application/pdf&amp;blobheadernamel=Content-Disposition&amp;blobheadervalue1=filename=Manual+Idoneidad+Adopci%C3%B3n-2008-Baja+Resoluci%C3%B3n.pdf&amp;blobkey=id&amp;blobtable=MungoBlobs&amp;blobwhere=1202777722314&amp;ssbinary=true&gt;</a></p> <p>[Consulta: 26 abril 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> Estas circunstancias pueden hacer que en algunos casos se planteen problemas de simulación (más o menos consciente) para tratar de dar de sí mismos la imagen que creen que el <b>evaluador</b> espera, o bien ocultación o falseamiento de datos o circunstancias que consideren pueden influir negativamente en la valoración.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Palacios, Jesús. <i>Intervenciones profesionales en adopción internacional: Valoración de idoneidad, asignación de menores a familias y seguimiento postadoptivo</i> [en línea]. Secretaría general técnica, 2008. &lt;<a href="http://www.msssi.gob.es/ssi/familiasInfancia/docs/manualIntervencionesProfesionales2008.pdf">http://www.msssi.gob.es/ssi/familiasInfancia/docs/manualIntervencionesProfesionales2008.pdf</a>&gt; [Consulta: 26 abril 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>

Inglés	<p><b>Término:</b> adoptive applicant</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> adjetivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b></p> <p><u>Adoptive</u>: 1. Characteristic of or having to do with adoption.</p> <p><u>Applicant</u>: A person who applies, as for a job, grant, support, etc; candidate</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>The Free Dictionary [en línea]. &lt;<a href="http://www.thefreedictionary.com/">http://www.thefreedictionary.com/</a>&gt; [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].</p> <p>Collins English Dictionary [en línea].</p>

	<p>&lt;<a href="http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/">http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/</a>&gt; [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> <b>Adoptive applicants</b> in Florida seeking to adopt children who are in state custody are subjected to a home study, a reference check, a criminal records check, a child abuse registry check, and a medical screening.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>
Español	<p><b>Término:</b> solicitante de adopción</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b>  <u>Solicitante</u>: 1. adj. Que solicita. U. t. c. s.  <u>Adopción</u>: Negocio jurídico por el que una persona, llamada <i>adoptante</i>, deviene emparentada civilmente con otra, llamada <i>adoptado</i> o <i>adoptivo</i>, estableciéndose entre ambas una relación prácticamente equiparable a la paterno-filial. El adoptante ha de hallarse en el ejercicio de todos sus derechos civiles y debe tener, como mínimo, más de veinticinco años, además de tener catorce años más que el adoptado. Si los adoptantes son cónyuges, basta que uno de ellos cumpla los referidos requisitos de edad. Nadie puede ser adoptado simultáneamente por más de una persona, excepto cuando los adoptantes son cónyuges entre sí.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b>  Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i>, [en línea]. 22ªed. &lt;<a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a>&gt; [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].  Ribó Durán, Luis. <i>Diccionario de derecho, Tomo I</i>. Barcelona: Bosch, 2005. ISBN 84-9790-154-1.</p>

	<b>Contexto:</b> Asesoramiento y apoyo a los <b>solicitantes de adopción</b> en los trámites y gestiones que deben realizar en España y en el extranjero.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Convenio de La Haya, de 29 de mayo de 1993, relativo a la Protección del niño y a la cooperación en materia de adopción internacional, ratificado por España el 11 de julio de 1995.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> adoptive home
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> "Adoptive home" means the place of residence of any natural person in which a child resides as a member of the household and in which he has been placed for the purposes of adoption or in which he has been legally adopted by another member of the household.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Defined Term [en línea]. < <a href="https://definedterm.com">https://definedterm.com</a> > [Consulta: 26 abril 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> The legislature has recognized that permanency in an <b>adoptive home</b> is a foster child's right, and that the state has a compelling interest in achieving that result in the most expeditious way.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>



	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> hogar funcional
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> 2. A los efectos de esta ley, se entiende por hogar funcional el núcleo de convivencia estable, similar al familiar, en el que su responsable o responsables residen de modo habitual.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ley 5/2014, de 9 de octubre, de Protección Social y Jurídica de la Infancia y la Adolescencia de Castilla-La Mancha. «Título IV, Capítulo I, Artículo 75» (BOE núm. 42, 18/02/2015, pp. 13217-13258).
	<b>Contexto:</b> 3. En los acogimientos en <b>hogar funcional</b> , el responsable o responsables del mismo deberán ser previamente declarados idóneos para el desempeño de sus labores, a solicitud de la entidad colaboradora titular del hogar.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ley 1/1997, de 7 de febrero, de Atención Integral a los Menores. «Título V, Capítulo IV, Artículo 61» (BOE núm. 63, 14/03/1997, pp. 8376-8397).
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> affidavit
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> A written or printed declaration or statement of facts, made voluntarily, and confirmed by the oath or affirmation of the party making it, taken before a person having authority to administer such oath or affirmation.
	<b>Referencia:</b> West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five</i>

	<p><i>languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of American, English, and Civil Law Jurisdictions.</i> Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> Nonetheless, Roe signed an <b>affidavit</b> committing to adopt the children alone should Petitioner die prior to the conclusion of the instant case.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>
Español	<p><b>Término:</b> declaración de idoneidad</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> [...] En materia de adopción, la Ley 15 mar. 1996 de Protección Jurídica del Menor, que modificó el art. 176 del CC, «introduce la exigencia del requisito de idoneidad de los adoptantes, que habrá de ser apreciado por la entidad pública, si ésta la que formula la propuesta, o directamente por el Juez, en otro caso. Este requisito, si bien no estaba expresamente establecido en nuestro derecho positivo, su exigencia aparece explícitamente en la Convención de La Haya sobre protección de menores y cooperación en materia de adopción internacional y se tenía en cuenta en la práctica en los procedimientos de selección de familias adoptantes» (E.M).</p> <p>Por lo anterior, se modificó también dicha Ley, el art. 9.5 del CC estableciendo la necesidad de la idoneidad de los adoptantes para la eficacia en nuestro país de las adopciones constituidas en el extranjero. [...]</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Arco Torres, Miguel Ángel del y Manuel Pons González. <i>Diccionario</i></p>

	<i>de derecho civil</i> . Granada: Comares. ISBN 84-8151-759-3.
	<b>Contexto:</b> 3. En los casos de acogimientos familiares especializados o ejercidos en hogares funcionales se requiere la <b>declaración de idoneidad</b> que corresponda a cada uno, en los términos que se establezcan reglamentariamente.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ley 5/2014, de 9 de octubre, de Protección Social y Jurídica de la Infancia y la Adolescencia de Castilla-La Mancha. «Título IV, Capítulo I, Artículo 76» (BOE núm. 42, 18/02/2015, pp. 13217-13258).
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b> No confundir con la declaración jurada.
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> age of maturity
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> <u>Age</u> : 1. the period of time that a person, animal, or plant has lived or is expected to live <u>Maturity</u> : 2) the age when one becomes an adult, which is 18 for most purposes.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Collins English Dictionary [en línea]. < <a href="http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/">http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016]. Gerald, Kathleen Hill, <i>The People's Law Dictionary</i> [en línea]. < <a href="http://dictionary.law.com/Default.aspx?selected=1227">http://dictionary.law.com/Default.aspx?selected=1227</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> Constitutional rights do not mature and come into being magically only when one attains the state-defined <b>age of maturity</b> .

	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> mayoría de edad
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Adquisición de la plena capacidad jurídica por el hecho de cumplir los años que la legislación de cada país requiera, y en las diversas ramas del Derecho: Civil, Mercantil, Laboral, etc. Situación jurídica de capacidad de cuantos han cumplido la edad en que se produce la emancipación de la patria potestad, de la tutela o curatela, o de otra restricción genérica de las facultades jurídicas de las personas.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Cabanellas de Torres, Guillermo, <i>Diccionario jurídico elemental</i> . Buenos Aires: Heliasta, 1993.
	<b>Contexto:</b> 2. En la comunicación de la aceptación del menor propuesto, los seleccionados harán constar que son conocedores de las circunstancias, obligaciones y efectos de aquélla, las cuales sucintamente se podrán describir, así como su compromiso de comunicar a los menores su condición adoptiva, su identidad y sus orígenes antes de la <b>mayoría de edad</b> del menor adoptado, a cuyo efecto podrán recibir el asesoramiento y apoyo necesario por parte de los equipos pluridisciplinarios de las administraciones públicas.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Decreto 137/2007, de 24 de mayo, por el que se regulan los procedimientos administrativos previos a la constitución de la adopción y el Registro de Adopción. (BOC núm. 118, 14/06/2007).

	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> attorney general
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<p><b>Definición:</b> The Attorney General, as head of the Department of justice and chief law officer of the Federal Government, represents the United States in legal matters generally and gives advice and opinions to the President and to the heads of the executive departments of the Government when so requested. The Attorney General appears in person to represent the Government in the U.S. Supreme Court in cases of exceptional gravity or importance.</p> <p>In each state there is also an attorney general, who is the chief law officer of the state. He gives advice and opinions to the governor and to executive and administrative departments or agencies.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of Amercian, English, and Civil Law Jurisdiccions</i>. Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> However, as neither the Department nor the <b>Attorney General</b> opposed the petition, that decision is not binding on any other court.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Español	<b>Término:</b> fiscal general
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Órgano supremo del Ministerio fiscal. Autoridad en todo el territorio español, es nombrado por el Rey, a propuesta del Gobierno y oído el Consejo General del Poder Judicial. Es elegido entre juristas españoles de reconocido prestigio con más de quince años de ejercicio efectivo de su profesión. Si la elección recae sobre un miembro de la carrera fiscal, quedará en situación de servicios especiales. Su régimen retributivo será idéntico al del Presidente del Tribunal Supremo. En los actos oficiales ocupará el lugar inmediato siguiente al del referido presidente.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ribó Durán, Luis. <i>Diccionario de derecho, Tomo I</i> . Barcelona: Bosch, 2005. ISBN 84-9790-154-1.
	<b>Contexto:</b> El <b>Fiscal General</b> del Estado tendrá carácter de autoridad en todo el territorio español y se le guardará y hará guardar el respeto y las consideraciones debidos a su alto cargo. En los actos oficiales ocupará el lugar inmediato siguiente al del Presidente del Tribunal Supremo.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ley 50/1981, 30 diciembre, por la que se regula el Estatuto Orgánico del Ministerio Fiscal. «Título III, Capítulo I, Artículo 30» (BOE núm. 11, 13/01/1982).
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> caregiver
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> A person who takes care of a vulnerable person, often a close relative.

	<b>Referencia:</b> The Free Dictionary, Encyclopedia [en línea]. < <a href="http://encyclopedia2.thefreedictionary.com/">http://encyclopedia2.thefreedictionary.com/</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> Dr. Brodzinsky's assessment entails compiling facts about the children's history, observing and interviewing to determine the existence and quality of the children's attachment to their <b>caregivers</b> .
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b> Sinónimo de <i>caretaker</i> .
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> guardador
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> 4. m. y f. tutor (   persona que ejerce la tutela).
	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ªed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> 2. El tutor y, en su caso, el <b>guardador</b> o guardadores.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Código Civil Español. «Capítulo V, Artículo 177», publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Inglés	<b>Término:</b> caretaker
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> 3. (social welfare) a person who takes care of a

	vulnerable person, often a close relative
	<b>Referencia:</b> Collins English Dictionary [en línea]. < <a href="http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/">http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> [...] regard to the children's understanding of their family dynamic, Dr. Brodzinsky reported that, obviously, James has no independent memory of his former family or <b>caretakers</b> .
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b> Sinónimo de <i>caregiver</i> .
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> guardador
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> 4. m. y f. tutor (   persona que ejerce la tutela).
	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ªed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> 2. El tutor y, en su caso, el <b>guardador</b> o guardadores.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Código Civil Español. «Capítulo V, Artículo 177», publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Inglés	<b>Término:</b> Center for Family and Child Enrichment
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo



	<p><b>Definición:</b> The center for Family and Child Enrichment, Inc provides case management to families of abused, neglected, and/or abandoned children. Case management services include home visits, case planning, court reporting, transportation, referral, put of home placements, reunification, independent living preparation, and adoptions. Our agency also provides community mental health services including parenting classes, therapy, targeted case management, and psychiatric services. We service all ages, while our target population is children ages 0-18.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> College of Social Work, Center for Child and Family Enrichment – CFCE, Inc. [en línea]. The Florida State University. &lt;<a href="http://csw.fsu.edu/field-settings/center-for-child-and-family-enrichment-cfce-inc/">http://csw.fsu.edu/field-settings/center-for-child-and-family-enrichment-cfce-inc/</a>&gt; [Consulta: 22 abril 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> The Guardian Ad Litem Program presented the testimony of Yves Francois, Adoption Supervisor for the <b>Center for Family and Child Enrichment</b>.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>
Español	<p><b>Término:</b> centro de protección</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> Estos centros están pensados para acoger a menores de edad de forma temporal, mientras no pueden volver con su familia o no pueden acceder a una familia de acogida. Son equipamientos residenciales de carácter socioeducativo que cubren las necesidades básicas y trabajan en el desarrollo global de los niños, niñas y jóvenes acogidos.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p>

	<p>Ajuntament de Barcelona, Atenció Social. «Centres de protecció» [en línea].</p> <p>&lt;<a href="https://w110.bcn.cat/portal/site/Infancia/menuitem.eb1d5c7204c5d49fb552b552a2ef8a0c/?vgnextoid=954ba609394f9210VgnVCM10000074fea8c0RCRD&amp;vgnnextchannel=954ba609394f9210VgnVCM10000074fea8c0RCRD&amp;lang=es_ES">https://w110.bcn.cat/portal/site/Infancia/menuitem.eb1d5c7204c5d49fb552b552a2ef8a0c/?vgnextoid=954ba609394f9210VgnVCM10000074fea8c0RCRD&amp;vgnnextchannel=954ba609394f9210VgnVCM10000074fea8c0RCRD&amp;lang=es_ES</a>&gt;</p> <p>[Consulta: 22 abril 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> 8. Al menos durante el año siguiente a la salida de los menores de un <b>centro de protección</b>, la Administración de la Comunidad Autónoma efectuará un seguimiento de aquéllos al objeto de comprobar que su integración sociolaboral sea correcta, aplicando las ayudas técnicas o económicas necesarias. Para ello, se podrá recabar la colaboración de los servicios sociales comunitarios gestionados por entidades locales, así como de cualesquiera otros organismos e instituciones.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Ley 12/2001, de 2 de julio, de la infancia y la adolescencia en Aragón. «Título III, Capítulo III, Sección 5, Artículo 66» (BOA, núm 86, 20/07/2001).</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b> En España no disponemos de un organismo que realice las mismas labores. En este caso he decidido buscar el equivalente más cercano y que se asemeja más por sus labores.</p>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> chattel
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> An article of personal property, as opposed to real property. A thing personal and movable. It may refer to animate as well as inanimate property.
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five</i></p>

	<p><i>languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of American, English, and Civil Law Jurisdictions</i>. Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> “Children are not simply <b>chattels</b> belonging to the parent, but have fundamental interests of their own that may diverge from the interests of the parent.”</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>
Español	<p><b>Término:</b> bien mueble</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> También denominado <i>cosa mueble</i>, es la entidad susceptible de apropiación que puede trasladarse de un punto a otro del espacio por obra del hombre o por sí misma, sin que sufra menoscabo la cosa inmueble a la que, en su caso, estuviere unida. Todas las cosas fungibles son cosas muebles. Entran en esta categoría y como <i>cosa mueble por naturaleza</i>, el mobiliario, las joyas, los vehículos, etc.; y como <i>cosa mueble por analogía</i>, el dinero, los títulos-valores, etc. Los animales, también considerados bienes muebles, se encuadran en el subgrupo de <i>semovientes</i> o cosas muebles que pueden trasladarse por impulso propio.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Ribó Durán, Luis. <i>Diccionario de derecho, Tomo I</i>. Barcelona: Bosch, 2005. ISBN 84-9790-154-1.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> 2. Si los bienes adquiridos a título oneroso durante el matrimonio son <b>bienes muebles</b> de valor ordinario destinados al uso familiar, se presume que pertenecen a ambos cónyuges por mitades indivisas, sin que prevalezca contra esta presunción la mera prueba</p>

	de la titularidad formal.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ley 25/2010, de 29 de julio, del libro segundo del Código civil de Cataluña, relativo a la persona y la familia. «Título III, Capítulo II, Sección primera, Artículo 232-3» (BOE, núm. 203, 21/08/2010).
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> child welfare
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> A generic term which embraces the totality of measures necessary for a child's well being; physical, moral and mental.
	<b>Referencia:</b> West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of American, English, and Civil Law Jurisdictions</i> . Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.
	<b>Contexto:</b> DCF is a member of the CWLA and looks to its policies for guidance in developing best practices in <b>child welfare</b> .
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> bienestar infantil
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Es un concepto que actualmente incluye tanto las

	<p>influencias materiales y ambientales que inciden sobre los niños, como la percepción directa que los mismos tienen de su estado físico, emocional y social. Abarca los aspectos positivos y negativos de los diversos contextos en que se desarrollan sus vidas (escuela, familia, comunidades, grupos de amigos).</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>VV.AA., «Pobreza infantil: conceptos e indicadores» [en línea].  Revista Digital Universitaria. Vol. 13, N° 5 (2012).  &lt;<a href="http://www.revista.unam.mx/vol.13/num5/art48/index.html">http://www.revista.unam.mx/vol.13/num5/art48/index.html</a>&gt;  [Consulta: 22 abril 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> [...] constituyendo, por lo tanto, el último recurso en la lista de medidas de protección disponibles para garantizar y proporcionar el <b>bienestar infantil</b>.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Ministerio de educación, política social y deporte, <i>Dónde acudir si quieres tramitar una adopción internacional: recursos públicos y privados en España</i> [en línea]. Secretaría general técnica, 2008.  &lt;<a href="http://www.msssi.gob.es/ssi/familiasInfancia/docs/agendaRecursosAdopcion.pdf">http://www.msssi.gob.es/ssi/familiasInfancia/docs/agendaRecursosAdopcion.pdf</a>&gt; [Consulta: 22 abril 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>

Inglés	<p><b>Término:</b> conclusion of law</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> Statement of court as to law applicable on basis of facts found by jury. The final judgment or decree required on basis of facts found or verdict.</p> <p>Propositions of law which a judge arrives at after, and as a result of, finding certain facts in case tried without jury or an advisory jury and as to these he must state them separately in writing.</p>

	A conclusion of law is a legal inference –a judicial deduction made upon a showing of certain facts, no further evidence being required.
	<b>Referencia:</b> West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of American, English, and Civil Law Jurisdictions</i> . Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.
	<b>Contexto:</b> The Court, having considered the record, testimony and arguments of counsel, makes the following Findings of Fact and <b>Conclusions of Law</b>
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
Español	<b>Notas:</b>
	<b>Término:</b> razonamiento jurídico
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> [...] el concepto de razonamiento jurídico se entiende en ocasiones como una aplicación de la noción general de razonamiento (cualquiera que esta sea) al campo específico del Derecho; pero otras veces se considera que el razonamiento jurídico es un tipo de razonamiento con características propias y cuya comprensión y manejo exigen un tratamiento diferenciado.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Atienza Rodríguez, Manuel, «Capítulo 39, Razonamiento jurídico», en Fabra Zamora, Jorge Luis y Verónica Rodríguez Blanco, <i>Enciclopedia de filosofía y teoría del derecho, volumen dos</i> . ISBN 978607026618. < <a href="http://biblio.juridicas.unam.mx/libros/8/3796/19.pdf">http://biblio.juridicas.unam.mx/libros/8/3796/19.pdf</a> > [Consulta: 4 mayo 2016].

	<b>Contexto:</b> <b>RAZONAMIENTOS JURÍDICOS</b> Primero.- La Ley de Enjuiciamiento Civil de 1881, en su Libro III (“De la Jurisdicción Voluntaria”), vigente hasta la entrada en vigor de la Ley que regule este tipo de jurisdicción, según la Disposición Derogatoria única, 1.1º, de la nueva LEC, regula en los artículos 1829 y siguientes el procedimiento de jurisdicción voluntaria sobre adopción, que se ha de conjugar con los artículos 175 a 180 del Código Civil y en especial 235-30 a 235-52 del Código Civil de Cataluña (libro segundo aprobado por Ley 25/2010 de 29 de julio del Parlamento de Cataluña).
	<b>Referencia:</b> Auto 195/13 del procedimiento de adopción nº 695/2013. Juzgado de 1ª Instancia nº4 de La Bisbal d’Empordà.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> custody
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> The care and control of a thing or person. The keeping, guarding, care, watch, inspection, preservation or security of a thing, carrying with it the idea of the thing being within the immediate personal care and control of the person to whose custody it is subjected. Immediate charge and control, and not the final, absolute control of ownership, implying responsibility for the protection and preservation of the thing in custody. [...] The care, control and maintenance of a child which may be awarded by a court to one of the parents as in a divorce or separation proceeding. [...]
	<b>Referencia:</b> West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five</i>

	<p><i>languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of American, English, and Civil Law Jurisdictions.</i> Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> [...] the child should be immediately suspect because the injury it imposes contradicts the legislative purpose and constitutional basis of the child's having been taken into <b>custody</b> by the State in the first place.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>
Español	<p><b>Término:</b> custodia</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> Medida de seguridad no privativa de libertad aplicable judicialmente desde un principio o durante la ejecución de la sentencia a los sujetos declarables o declarados total o parcialmente exentos de responsabilidad criminal por enajenación mental, intoxicación plena o alteración de la conciencia de la realidad. El sometido a esta medida quedará sujeto al cuidado y vigilancia del familiar que se designe y que acepte la custodia, el cual la ejercerá en relación con el Juez de Vigilancia y sin menoscabo de las actividades escolares o laborales del <i>custodiado</i>. Al igual que otras medidas provisionales de seguridad, ésta no podrá durar más de cinco años.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Ribó Durán, Luis. <i>Diccionario de derecho, Tomo I.</i> Barcelona: Bosch, 2005. ISBN 84-9790-154-1.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> 2. El Juez, cuando deba adoptar cualquier medida sobre la <b>custodia</b>, el cuidado y la educación de los hijos menores, velará por el cumplimiento de su derecho a ser oídos.</p>



	<b>Referencia:</b> Código Civil Español. «Título IV, Capítulo IX, Artículo 92», publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b> En español podemos diferenciar entre custodia y guarda, mientras que en inglés se utiliza el mismo término.
	<b>Término:</b> guarda
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> El encargado de conservar o custodiar una cosa. Defensa, conservación, cuidado o custodia. Tutela.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Cabanellas de Torres, Guillermo, <i>Diccionario jurídico elemental</i> . Buenos Aires: Heliasta, 1993.
	<b>Contexto:</b> 3. La <b>guarda</b> podrá ejercerse, bajo la vigilancia de la entidad pública, por el director de la casa o establecimiento en que el menor es internado o por la persona o personas que lo reciban en acogimiento.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Código Civil Español, «Capítulo V, Artículo 172», publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> customary
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> adjetivo
	<b>Definición:</b> According to custom or usage; founded on, or growing out of, or dependent on, a custom ( <i>q.v.</i> ); ordinary; usual; common.
	<b>Referencia:</b> West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five</i>

	<p><i>languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of Amercian, English, and Civil Law Jurisdiccions.</i> Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> Mr. Francois confirmed that no one else has applied to adopt the minor children, and there is an adoption hold placed on the minor children until a final determination is made on Petitioner's petition to adopt, as is <b>customary</b>.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>
Español	<p><b>Término:</b> consuetudinario</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> adjetivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> 1. adj. Que es de costumbre. 2. adj. Habitual o reincidente.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i>, [en línea]. 22ªed. &lt;<a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a>&gt; [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> Para dictar una orden de adopción, el tribunal puede solicitar el consentimiento de cualquier persona, si considera que dicha persona tiene algún derecho u obligación para con el menor, tal como un contrato, una orden judicial o alguna otra consideración de derecho <b>consuetudinario</b>.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Consulado Honorario de Ghana en Madrid, <i>Según Acuerdo adoptado en la reunión de Directores Generales de Infancia celebrada el 14 de julio de 2009, no se tramitan adopciones internacionales con este país, dada la situación actual de</i></p>

	<i>Ghana</i> [en pdf]. 2009.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> CWLA [Child Welfare League of America]
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> CWLA is a powerful coalition of hundreds of private and public agencies serving children and families that are vulnerable since 1920. Our expertise, leadership and innovation on policies, programs, and practices help improve the lives of millions of children across the country. Our impact is felt worldwide.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Child Welfare League of America, Who we are & what we do [en línea]. < <a href="http://www.cwla.org/about-us/">http://www.cwla.org/about-us/</a> > [Consulta: 22 abril 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> DCF is a member of the <b>CWLA</b> and looks to its policies for guidance in developing best practices in child welfare. RFA Response 14.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> Liga de bienestar infantil de Estados Unidos
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b>
	<b>Referencia:</b>
	<b>Contexto:</b>
	<b>Referencia:</b>

	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> DCF [Department of Children and Families]
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> The Department of Children and Families (DCF) is the agency that oversees Child Welfare Services within the State of Florida. In some regions, DCF holds the authority to take children from their birth families to protect their welfare, or to accept children who are given up by families on a temporary or long term basis. In other regions, this responsibility has been subcontracted out to the local Sheriff's Departments. At the point a child is deemed in need of removal and placement the child becomes the responsibility of the Department of Children and Families through the Local Lead Agencies which will either provide foster care in-house, or arrange for an alternative foster care placement with independent agencies like Key Assets.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Key Assets Florida, <i>Glossary of terms</i> [en línea]. < <a href="http://www.keyassetsflorida.com/what-is-foster-care/glossary-terms/">http://www.keyassetsflorida.com/what-is-foster-care/glossary-terms/</a> > [Consulta: 22 abril 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> Before <b>DCF</b> or its agents approve an applicant seeking to adopt a child, that applicant is individually screened to ensure that he or she can provide a safe, healthy, stable, nurturing environment for a child. RFA Response 10.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.

	<p><b>Contexto:</b> THIS MATTER came before the Court on Petitioner's sworn Petition for Adoption of John Doe, born June 15, 2000, and his biological half-brother James Doe, born August 2, 2004. <b>The Department of Children and Families</b> moved to dismiss the Petition based on Petitioner's sexual orientation.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopció</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>
Español	<p><b>Término:</b> Equipo de Atención a la Infancia y la Adolescencia</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> Els EAIA reben els casos en situació de desemparament o en risc d'estar-hi que detecten els serveis socials bàsics, les instàncies judicials o policials o la Direcció General d'Atenció a la Infància i l'Adolescència. Fan el diagnòstic, la valoració dels infants i del seu entorn sociofamiliar, i proposen les mesures més adequades per a cada cas.</p> <p>Elaboren plans de millora per a l'infant i la seva família, fan el seguiment i el tractament un cop s'han aplicat les mesures proposades, tant si estan en el nucli familiar com en un centre o en una família d'acollida.</p> <p>Són els responsables de coordinar els altres equips i serveis del seu territori que també intervinguin en l'atenció als infants en desemparament, així com donar assessorament als serveis socials bàsics d'atenció social.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Gencat, Equip d'Atenció a la Infància i l'Adolescència [en línia]. Departament de Treball, Afers Socials i Famílies. &lt;<a href="http://treballiaferssocials.gencat.cat/ca/ambits_tematics/infan">http://treballiaferssocials.gencat.cat/ca/ambits_tematics/infan</a></p>

	<p><a href="#">cia i adolescencia/proteccio a la infancia i ladolescencia/el sistema catala de proteccio a la infancia i ladolescencia/equips datencio a la infancia i ladolescencia eaia/&gt;</a></p> <p>[Consulta: 22 abril 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> Por otra parte, la Ley contempla la creación de los <b>Equipos de Atención a la Infancia y Adolescencia</b> (EAIAs) en el marco de los Centros de Servicios Sociales, que entre sus funciones tienen asignada de manera expresa la de “servir de apoyo a los Servicios Sociales de Base para complementar sus funciones y para coordinar a éstos con los Servicios Sociales especializados.”</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Paúl, Joaquín de y Ignacia Arrubarrena, <i>Evaluación del plan de atención a la infancia y adolescencia en dificultad social en la comunidad foral de Navarra</i>. Universidad del País Vasco, 2007.</p> <p>&lt;<a href="http://www.sindicadegreugesbcn.cat/pdf/monografics/risc_es.pdf">http://www.sindicadegreugesbcn.cat/pdf/monografics/risc_es.pdf</a>&gt; [Consulta: 22 abril 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b> Cada comunidad autónoma tiene una denominación distinta. En el caso de Cataluña se denomina «equipo de atención a la infancia y la adolescencia».</p>

Inglés	<p><b>Término:</b> due process clause</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> Clause included in the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution ensuring that no person is deprived of his life, liberty, or property without due process of law.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Legal Dictionary [en línea]. &lt;<a href="http://legaldictionary.net/">http://legaldictionary.net/</a>&gt; [Consulta: 28 abril 2016].</p>

	<b>Contexto:</b> This case appropriately relies on United States Supreme Court precedent to the effect that the right to freedom from bodily restraint is a core liberty preserved by the Due Process Clause and any government action impairing that interest must be narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling state purpose.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> cláusula del debido proceso
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> [...] la cláusula del debido proceso legal (due process of law) de la Decimocuarta Enmienda, que garantiza el derecho de la persona a adoptar por sí misma las decisiones fundamentales que configuran su vida personal y familiar sin injerencia estatal alguna, incluyéndose el derecho a contraer matrimonio, a tener hijos y decidir sobre la educación y crianza de éstos, al uso de anticonceptivos, el derecho al aborto y a la libertad sexual en el ámbito privado, planteándose incluso si la cláusula del debido proceso ampara el derecho a rechazar un tratamiento médico [...]
	<b>Referencia:</b> Nieves Saldaña, María, «El derecho a la privacidad en los Estados Unidos: aproximación diacrónica a los intereses constitucionales en juego», <i>Teoría y Realidad Constitucional</i> , núm. 28 (2011), pp. 279-312.
	<b>Contexto:</b>
	<b>Referencia:</b>
	<b>Ámbito:</b>
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> findings of fact
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<p><b>Definición:</b> Determinations from the evidence of a case, either by court or an administrative agency, concerning facts averred by one party and denied by another.</p> <p>A determination of a fact by the court, averred by one party and denied by the other, and founded on evidence in case. [...]</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of Amercian, English, and Civil Law Jurisdiccitions</i>. Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> The Court, having considered the record, testimony and arguments of counsel, makes the following <b>Findings of Fact</b> and Conclusions of Law</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> antecedente de hecho
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<p><b>Definición:</b> [...] los antecedentes de hecho tienen una función preparatoria respecto a los fundamentos de derecho: en ellos, se recoge desde una perspectiva objetiva el material fáctico que se ha recabado a lo largo del proceso y que ha sido relevante para la decisión del mismo.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Holl, Iris, <i>Textología contrastiva, derecho comparado y traducción</i></p>



	<p><i>jurídica: las sentencias de divorcio alemanas y españolas</i> [en línea]. Frank &amp; Timme GmbH. ISBN 978-3-86596-324-6. [Consulta: 28 abril 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b></p> <p><b>ANTECEDENTES DE HECHO</b></p> <p>Primero.- Por la representación procesal de D<sup>a</sup>. XXXX se presentó el 11 de noviembre de 2013 escrito solicitando la adopción de XXXX y XXXX, menores de edad, e hijos adoptivos de su pareja de hecho, D<sup>a</sup>. XXXX.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Auto 195/13 del procedimiento de adopción nº 695/2013. Juzgado de 1ª Instancia nº4 de La Bisbal d'Empordà.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>

Inglés	<p><b>Término:</b> former family</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> adjetivo + sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b></p> <p><u>Former</u>: 2. having been at a previous time</p> <p><u>Family</u>: 1. a. a primary social group consisting of parents and their offspring, the principal function of which is provision for its members</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Collins English Dictionary [en línea].  <a href="http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/">http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/</a>  [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> John has a limited memory of his <b>former family</b> and sometimes confused interactions with his mother and aunt.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>

Español	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
	<b>Término:</b> familia anterior
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo + adjetivo
	<b>Definición:</b> <u>Familia</u> : 1. f. Grupo de personas emparentadas entre sí que viven juntas. <u>Anterior</u> : 1. adj. Que precede en lugar o tiempo.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ªed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> 1. La adopción produce la extinción de los vínculos jurídicos entre el adoptado y su <b>familia anterior</b> .
	<b>Referencia:</b> Código Civil Español, «Capítulo V, Artículo 178», publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> foster
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> verbo
	<b>Definición:</b> To provide the care that a parent usually gives to a child: to be or become the foster parent of a child.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Merriam Webster [en línea]. < <a href="http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/">http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> Although Petitioner and Roe <b>had fostered</b> other children, caring for John was the most challenging of their foster care experiences. For the first few months, John seemed depressed and presented a void, unresponsive demeanor and appearance.

	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> acoger
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> verbo
	<b>Definición:</b> Proteger o amparar a alguien.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Cabanellas de Torres, Guillermo, <i>Diccionario jurídico elemental</i> . Buenos Aires: Heliasta, 1993.
	<b>Contexto:</b> Pueden <b>acoger</b> a un menor las personas o familias que quieren colaborar en el cuidado de los menores que no pueden estar con su familia de origen durante un tiempo.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Gencat, Acogimiento familiar [en línea]. < <a href="http://web.gencat.cat/es/tramits/que-cal-fer-si/adopto-i-o-acullo-un-infant/acolliment-familiar/">http://web.gencat.cat/es/tramits/que-cal-fer-si/adopto-i-o-acullo-un-infant/acolliment-familiar/</a> > [Consulta: 22 abril 2016].
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> foster care
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Supervised care for delinquent or neglected children usually in an institution or substitute home.
	<b>Referencia:</b> The Free Dictionary [en línea]. < <a href="http://www.thefreedictionary.com/">http://www.thefreedictionary.com/</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].

	<b>Contexto:</b> The witness also opined that it is in children's best interest to be adopted by Petitioner, as opposed to maintaining lesser forms of permanency through continued <b>foster care</b> , permanent guardianship or the like.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> guarda
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> El encargado de conservar o custodiar una cosa. Defensa, conservación, cuidado o custodia. Tutela.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Cabanellas de Torres, Guillermo, <i>Diccionario jurídico elemental</i> . Buenos Aires: Heliasta, 1993.
	<b>Contexto:</b> 3. La <b>guarda</b> podrá ejercerse, bajo la vigilancia de la entidad pública, por el director de la casa o establecimiento en que el menor es internado o por la persona o personas que lo reciban en acogimiento.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Código Civil Español. «Capítulo V, Artículo 172», publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Inglés	<b>Término:</b> foster child
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> n. a child without parental support and protection, placed

	with a person or family to be cared for, usually by local welfare services or by court order. The foster parent(s) do not have custody, nor is there an adoption, but they are expected to treat the foster child as they would their own in regard to food, housing, clothing and education. Most foster parents are paid by the local government or a state agency.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Gerald, Kathleen Hill, <i>The People's Law Dictionary</i> [en línea]. < <a href="http://dictionary.law.com/">http://dictionary.law.com/</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> Florida's dependency and adoption laws thereby embody the substance of state and federal decisions that declare a child's constitutional right to a true home, and in the case of a <b>foster child</b> , to a permanent adoptive home.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> menor en acogida
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> <u>Menor:</u> Persona que no ha cumplido todavía la edad que la ley establece para gozar de la plena capacidad jurídica normal, determinada por la mayoría de edad (v.). <u>Acoger:</u> Proteger o amparar a alguien.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Cabanellas de Torres, Guillermo, <i>Diccionario jurídico elemental</i> . Buenos Aires: Heliasta, 1993.
	<b>Contexto:</b> Prevé igualmente el Reglamento de Protección de los menores desamparados y de la Adopción, en su artículo 64 una serie de criterios a la hora de seleccionar la familia ajena que deberán ser

	tenidos en cuenta para la asignación de un <b>menor en acogida</b> .
	<b>Referencia:</b> Belestá Segura, Luis, <i>La protección de los menores desamparados en el Derecho Civil Catalán</i> [en línea]. 2007. < <a href="http://noticias.juridicas.com/conocimiento/articulos-doctrinales/4296-la-proteccion-de-los-menores-desamparados-en-el-derecho-civil-catalan/">http://noticias.juridicas.com/conocimiento/articulos-doctrinales/4296-la-proteccion-de-los-menores-desamparados-en-el-derecho-civil-catalan/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> foster parents
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> persons who look after a child who is not theirs either by blood or by adoption. The normal procedure involves local authorities who, under statutory powers, assume parental rights over children orphaned, abandoned, neglected or abused by parents and delegate the actual care of the child to persons whom they pay to look after it. Foster parents have no legal rights over the child they foster: Children Act 1989.
	<b>Referencia:</b> The Free Dictionary, Legal dictionary [en línea]. < <a href="http://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/">http://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> At some point, Petitioner and Roe decided to expand their family. After considering surrogacy and adopting abroad they decided to become <b>foster parents</b> .
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción

Español	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
	<b>Término:</b> familia de acogida
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> <u>Familia</u> : 1. f. Grupo de personas emparentadas entre sí que viven juntas. <u>Acogida</u> : 2. f. Protección o amparo.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ªed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> b) Mantener relación con la familia de acogida tras el cese del acogimiento si la Entidad Pública entiende que conviniere a su interés superior y siempre que lo consintieren el menor si tuviere suficiente madurez y, en todo caso, si fuera mayor de doce años, la <b>familia de acogida</b> y la de origen o, en su caso, la familia adoptiva o de acogimiento permanente.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ley 26/2015, de 28 de julio, de modificación del sistema de protección a la infancia y a la adolescencia. (BOE núm. 180, 29/07/2015, pp. 64544 a 64613).
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> guardian Ad Litem
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> A special guardian appointed by the court to prosecute or defend, in behalf of an infant or incompetent, a suit to which he is a party, and such guardian is considered and officer of the court to represent the interests of the infant or incompetent in the litigation.
	<b>Referencia:</b>

	<p>West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of American, English, and Civil Law Jurisdictions</i>. Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> The Court also heard testimony from Ronald Gilbert, the children's <b>Guardian Ad Litem</b> since June 2005.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>
Español	<p><b>Término:</b> tutor o curador ad litem</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> Individuo, sujeto o persona nombrada por el juez para seguir los pleitos y defender los derechos de un menor, representándolo.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> J. Martínez, <i>Diccionario / Enciclopedia Jurídica Online</i> [en línea]. &lt;<a href="http://diccionario.leyderecho.org/">http://diccionario.leyderecho.org/</a>&gt; [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> [...] y tiene lugar aun en los bienes dotales de la madre ó abuela tutora, y en el <b>tutor y curador ad litem</b>, mas no en los bienes del procurador ó actor [...]</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b> Álvarez, José María, <i>Instituciones de derecho real de España</i>, volumen 2. Nabu Press, 2012.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b> Ambos términos son válidos y se pueden usar juntos o separados.</p>



Inglés	<b>Término:</b> guardianship
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> The office, duty, or authority of a guardian. Also the relation subsisting between guardian and ward.
	<b>Referencia:</b> West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of American, English, and Civil Law Jurisdictions</i> . Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.
	<b>Contexto:</b> The witness also opined that it is in children's best interest to be adopted by Petitioner, as opposed to maintaining lesser forms of permanency through continued foster care, permanent <b>guardianship</b> or the like.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> tutela
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Institución mediante la cual se suple la deficiencia que afecta a los menores sin padres y a los incapacitados aunque sean mayores de edad. Cuando la incapacitación se funda en la demencia, se habla de tutela ejemplar. El tutor es el representante del tutelado. Éste debe respeto y obediencia a aquél. En el ejercicio de su cargo, el tutor podrá recabar el auxilio de la autoridad, y podrá corregir al menor tutelado de forma razonable y moderada. El tutor está obligado a velar por el tutelado y, en particular, a procurarle alimentos; a educar al menor y procurarle una formación integral; a

	<p>promover la adquisición o recuperación de la capacidad del tutelado y su mejor inserción en la sociedad; a informar al Juez anualmente sobre la situación del menor o incapacitado, y rendirle cuenta anual de su administración. El tutor es el administrador legal de patrimonio del tutelado y, en dicha función, observará la diligencia de un buen padre de familia. La tutela se ejercerá bajo la vigilancia del Juez. [...]</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Ribó Durán, Luis. <i>Diccionario de derecho, Tomo II</i>. Barcelona: Bosch, 2005. ISBN 84-9790-154-1.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> 3ª Llevar más de un año acogido legalmente por el adoptante o haber estado bajo su <b>tutela</b> por el mismo tiempo.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>Código Civil Español, «Capítulo V, Artículo 176», publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.</p>
	<p><b>Ámbito:</b> adopción</p>
	<p><b>Relación con otros términos:</b></p>
	<p><b>Notas:</b></p>

Inglés	<p><b>Término:</b> minor children</p>
	<p><b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo</p>
	<p><b>Definición:</b> An infant or person who is under the age of legal competence. A term derived from the Civil Law, which described a person under a certain age as less than so many years. In most states, a person is no longer a minor after reaching the age of 18.</p>
	<p><b>Referencia:</b></p> <p>West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of Amercian, English, and Civil Law Jurisdiccions</i>. Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.</p>
	<p><b>Contexto:</b> [...] testified as to his personal knowledge of the <b>minor children</b> and the Petitioner and his knowledge of the policies and</p>

	procedures for adoption in Florida.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> menor
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Persona que no ha cumplido todavía la edad que la ley establece para gozar de la plena capacidad jurídica normal, determinada por la mayoría de edad (v.).
	<b>Referencia:</b> Cabanellas de Torres, Guillermo, <i>Diccionario jurídico elemental</i> . Buenos Aires: Heliasta, 1993.
	<b>Contexto:</b> Tratándose del <b>menor</b> acogido, el derecho que a sus padres corresponde para visitarle y relacionarse con él, podrá ser regulado o suspendido por el Juez, atendidas las circunstancias y el interés del menor.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Código Civil Español, «Título VII, Capítulo I, Artículo 161», publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> order
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> verbo
	<b>Definición:</b> Direction of a court or judge normally made or entered in writing, and not included in a judgment, which determines some point or directs some step in the proceedings.

	<b>Referencia:</b> The Free Dictionary, Legal dictionary [en línea]. < <a href="http://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/">http://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> Accordingly, it is <b>ORDERED</b> and ADJUDGED that John Doe and James Doe be declared the legal children of Petitioner.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> ordenar
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> verbo
	<b>Definición:</b> 1. tr. Colocar algo o a alguien de acuerdo con un plan o de modo conveniente. Ordena los recibos por fecha. 2. tr. Encaminar y dirigir algo a un fin. Ordenó su actuación a mejorar las condiciones de trabajo. 3. tr. Mandar, imponer, dar orden de algo. Le ordena seguir adelante. 4. tr. Rel. Conferir las órdenes sagradas a alguien. 5. prnl. Rel. Recibir las órdenes sagradas.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ª ed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> Por lo tanto, <b>ordeno</b> que todos los ciudadanos guarden esta Ley y que los Tribunales y las autoridades a los que pertenezca la hagan guardar.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ley 7/1995, de 21 de marzo, de guarda y protección de los menores desamparados. «Título III, Capítulo II, Sección 4, Artículo 30» (BOE núm. 119, 19/05/1995, pp. 14671-14677).

	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> parental right
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> <p>The sum total of the rights of the parent or parents in and to the child as well as the rights of the child in and to the parent or parents.</p> <p>The following are “parental rights” protected to varying degrees by constitutions: physical possession of child, which, in case of custodial parent, includes day-to-day care and companionship of child; right to discipline child, which includes right to inculcate in child parent’s moral and ethical standards; right to control and manage minor child’s earnings; right to control and manage minor child’s property; right to be supported by adult child; right to have child bear parent’s name; and right to prevent adoption of child without parents’ consent.</p>
	<b>Referencia:</b> <p>West Publishing Company, <i>Law and Commercial Dictionary in Five languages: Definitions of the legal and Commercial Terms and Phrases of Amercian, English, and Civil Law Jurisdiccions</i>. Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1985. ISBN 0-314-80502-8.</p>
	<b>Contexto:</b> Twenty-months later, upon the termination of <b>parental rights</b> of John and James respective biological fathers in July and April 2006, respectively, and the termination of the parental rights of their mother in July 2006, the children became available for adoption.
	<b>Referencia:</b> <p>Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.</p>
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>

	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> patria potestad
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Conjunto de facultades que la ley reconoce a los padres para que puedan cumplir los deberes que, frente a sus hijos, tienen en orden a alimentarlos, educarlos e instruirlos, en la medida de sus posibilidades. [...]
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ribó Durán, Luis. <i>Diccionario de derecho, Tomo II</i> . Barcelona: Bosch, 2005. ISBN 84-9790-154-1.
	<b>Contexto:</b> Se formalizará por escrito, con el consentimiento de la entidad pública, tenga o no la tutela de las personas que reciban al menor y de éste si tuviera doce años cumplidos, con expresión de su carácter remunerado o no. Cuando fueran conocidos los padres que no estuvieren privados de la <b>patria potestad</b> , o el tutor, será necesario, además, que consientan el acogimiento. Si se opusieran al mismo o no comparecieran, el acogimiento sólo podrá ser acordado por el Juez, en interés del menor, conforme a los trámites de la Ley de Enjuiciamiento Civil.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Código Civil Español, «Capítulo V, Artículo 173», publicado el 24/07/1889, en vigor a partir del 01/05/1889.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> permanent guardianship
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Permanent Guardianship refers to a type of guardianship in which a relationship between a child and a guardian is permanent and self-sustaining, and creates a permanent family for the child. The parental rights of a child's parents need not be terminated under

	permanent guardianship. A permanent guardianship generally cannot be terminated.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Legal Definitions & Legal Terms Defined, <i>Free legal dictionary</i> . 2016. < <a href="http://definitions.uslegal.com/">http://definitions.uslegal.com/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> The witness also opined that it is in children's best interest to be adopted by Petitioner, as opposed to maintaining lesser forms of permanency through continued foster care, <b>permanent guardianship</b> or the like.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> tutela permanente
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> <u>Tutela:</u> 1. f. Autoridad que, en defecto de la paterna o materna, se confiere para cuidar de la persona y los bienes de aquel que, por minoría de edad o por otra causa, no tiene completa capacidad civil. 2. f. Cargo de tutor. 3. f. Dirección, amparo o defensa de una persona respecto de otra.
	<u>Permanente:</u> 1. adj. Que permanece. 2. adj. Sin limitación de tiempo. Se reunieron en sesión permanente.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ª ed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 2 mayo 2016].

	<b>Contexto:</b> Por último, analizaremos la figura de la Kafala como un sistema de <b>tutela permanente</b> , de acogida dativa y como una alternativa a la adopción, destacando a este respecto el estudio de Eduardo Corral García sobre los efectos de la Kafala.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Baelo Álvarez, Manuel, <i>Los orígenes de la adopción desde una perspectiva sociojurídica</i> . Madrid: Dykinson, 2014.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> petition
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> verbo
	<b>Definición:</b> To ask (a person, group, or organization) for something in a formal way.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Merriam Webster [en línea]. < <a href="http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/designee">http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/designee</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> Petitioner, the unmarried 45-year old1 foster care provider of John and James <b>petitioned</b> to adopt the siblings to, among other ambitions, “provide a permanent family for them where they will be nurtured and well taken care of.”
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> solicitar
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> verbo



	<b>Definición:</b> 1. tr. Pretender, pedir o buscar algo con diligencia y cuidado. 2. tr. Hacer diligencias o gestionar los negocios propios o ajenos. 3. tr. Requerir y procurar con instancia tener amores con alguien. 4. tr. Pedir algo de manera respetuosa, o rellenando una solicitud o instancia. 5. tr. Fís. Someter a un cuerpo a una o más fuerzas con diferente sentido. 6. intr. desus. Instar, urgir.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ª ed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> Antes de salir del país, una vez constituida la adopción por el órgano competente del país de origen del menor, es necesario acudir al Consulado español para proceder a legalizar la resolución que haya emitido ese organismo competente y <b>solicitar:</b> la inscripción de la adopción, o, en su caso, la expedición del preceptivo Visado para poder viajar con el niño a España.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ministerio de educación, política social y deporte, <i>Dónde acudir si quieres tramitar una adopción internacional: recursos públicos y privados en España</i> [en línea]. Secretaría general técnica, 2008. < <a href="http://www.msssi.gob.es/ssi/familiasInfancia/docs/agendaRecursosAdopcion.pdf">http://www.msssi.gob.es/ssi/familiasInfancia/docs/agendaRecursosAdopcion.pdf</a> > [Consulta: 22 abril 2016].
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> petitioner
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> One who presents a formal, written application to a court,

	officer, or legislative body that requests action on a certain matter. In legal proceedings initiated by a petition, the respondent is the person against whom relief is sought, or who opposes the petition. One who appeals from a judgment is a petitioner.
	<b>Referencia:</b> The Free Dictionary, Legal dictionary [en línea]. < <a href="http://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/">http://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/</a> > [Consulta: 23 febrero 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> THIS MATTER came before the Court on <b>Petitioner's</b> sworn Petition for Adoption of John Doe, born June 15, 2000, and his biological half-brother James Doe, born August 2, 2004.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> demandante
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> sustantivo
	<b>Definición:</b> Quien demanda, pide, insta o solicita. El que entable una acción judicial; el que pide algo en juicio; quien asume la iniciativa procesal. Son sinónimos actor, parte actora y demandador (v. Demandado).
	<b>Referencia:</b> Cabanellas de Torres, Guillermo, <i>Diccionario jurídico elemental</i> . Buenos Aires: Heliasta, 1993.
	<b>Contexto:</b> Estas tres resoluciones administrativas fueron impugnadas por la <b>demandante</b> ante la jurisdicción civil, siendo desestimadas acumuladamente dichas impugnaciones por el Juez de Primera Instancia núm. 3 de A Coruña y, con posterioridad, en grado de apelación, por Sentencia de 30 de marzo de 2004 dictada por la Sección Quinta de la Audiencia Provincial de aquella ciudad.

	<b>Referencia:</b> Sala Segunda. Sentencia 58/2008, de 28 de abril de 2008 (BOE núm. 135, de 4 de junio de 2008).
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

Inglés	<b>Término:</b> safeguard
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> verbo
	<b>Definición:</b> To make (someone or something) safe or secure.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Merriam Webster [en línea]. < <a href="http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/designee">http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/designee</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> A social study which involves careful observation, screening and evaluation is made of the child and adoptive applicant prior to the placement of the child to select families who will be able to meet the physical, emotional, social, educational and financial needs of a child, while <b>safeguarding</b> the child from further loss and separation from primary caretakers.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Estados Unidos, Florida. Final judgment of adoption. Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2008.
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>
Español	<b>Término:</b> proteger
	<b>Categoría gramatical:</b> verbo
	<b>Definición:</b> 1. tr. Resguardar a una persona, animal o cosa de un perjuicio o peligro, poniéndole algo encima, rodeándolo, etc. U. t. c. prnl. 2. tr. Amparar, favorecer, defender a alguien o algo.

	<b>Referencia:</b> Real Academia Española. <i>Diccionario de la lengua española</i> , [en línea]. 22ª ed. < <a href="http://www.rae.es/">http://www.rae.es/</a> > [Consulta: 3 marzo 2016].
	<b>Contexto:</b> [...] a que cualquier medida protectora a favor de la infancia (y la adopción internacional así está concebida) debe estar orientada a <b>proteger</b> y respetar los derechos del niño, garantizando siempre su interés superior, tal y como aparece expresamente recogido en la Convención sobre los Derechos del Niño de 1989.
	<b>Referencia:</b> Ministerio de educación, política social y deporte, <i>Dónde acudir si quieres tramitar una adopción internacional: recursos públicos y privados en España</i> [en línea]. Secretaría general técnica, 2008. < <a href="http://www.msssi.gob.es/ssi/familiasInfancia/docs/agendaRecursosAdopcion.pdf">http://www.msssi.gob.es/ssi/familiasInfancia/docs/agendaRecursosAdopcion.pdf</a> > [Consulta: 22 abril 2016].
	<b>Ámbito:</b> adopción
	<b>Relación con otros términos:</b>
	<b>Notas:</b>

## 8. CONCLUSIONES

Mediante el análisis de las sentencias de adopción, de la legislación que existe en torno a ella, la extracción de términos y sus correspondientes fichas terminológicas he podido adentrarme en este ámbito tanto en la lengua inglesa como en la española. Me he dado cuenta de lo complicado que puede llegar a ser entender y traducir las sentencias de adopción y la terminología que las envuelve.

No cabe duda de que lo más importante siempre es el menor y su bienestar, y eso se ve reflejado en ambas legislaciones, la estadounidense y la española. Aun así, en la primera parte del trabajo hemos podido observar que existen algunas diferencias entre ambas y nos puede dificultar el proceso de búsqueda de términos equivalentes, como pueden ser las leyes y las entidades relacionadas con la adopción, ya que al ser la legislación distinta nos dificulta el hecho de encontrar un equivalente exacto y, por lo tanto, debemos utilizar el que más se acerque dependiendo de las circunstancias. También puede ser difícil encontrar una buena traducción si el término que tenemos en inglés no existe en España o es ligeramente diferente. Algunos ejemplos con los que me he encontrado son *adoption review committee* o *adoption supervisor*. En los casos de *foster* y *guardianship*, traducidos como ‘guarda’ y ‘tutela’, me he tenido que documentar bien para saber si son exactamente equivalentes, ya que en Estados Unidos no diferencian entre acogimiento, guarda y adopción como se hace en España.

En la segunda parte del trabajo se ha realizado la extracción de términos de la sentencia estadounidense. Además se ha propuesto una traducción a esos términos, lo que me ha permitido disponer de un glosario de gran utilidad de ahora en adelante para traducir textos especializados del ámbito jurídico junto con la tercera y última parte del trabajo, en la que se ha creado una serie de tablas con dichos términos. Este apartado también nos es útil ya que vemos el contexto de los términos, las definiciones, etc.

Se extrajeron los términos más significativos de la sentencia, es decir, los más característicos de una sentencia de adopción junto con algunos términos más generales pero que nos pueden servir también en este ámbito. Aun así he evitado recoger algunos términos que no se relacionan con las adopciones aunque se encuentren en las sentencias, ya que no eran tan interesantes como otros para este trabajo.

Para realizar las fichas terminológicas he tenido que tomar algunas decisiones en cuanto a la redacción de los términos. A parte de escribirlos en minúscula, he decidido

decantarme por dejar los términos en singular, como por ejemplo *parental right* o ‘razonamiento jurídico’, aunque vemos que se utilizan en plural. Asimismo, los verbos en inglés los he introducido sin la partícula ‘to’.

Podemos concluir que la traducción jurídica es un proceso complejo para el cual se necesita una preparación previa. En mi caso, la preparación previa ha sido la primera parte del trabajo, es decir, la comparación de ambas legislaciones. Durante la realización de este trabajo he comprobado que no sólo estaba comparando dos idiomas diferentes, sino también dos sistemas jurídicos que se diferencian mucho entre sí. Por ello, los problemas de traducción encontrados no han sido únicamente de tipo lingüístico.

Para conseguir una buena documentación fue vital conocer a qué fuentes debía acudir y cómo había que utilizarlas. Durante el desarrollo de este trabajo he ampliado los conocimientos que tenía acerca de las fuentes de consulta disponibles para una traducción de este ámbito de especialidad. Además he aprendido a utilizarlas correctamente y a distinguir el valor y la finalidad de cada una de ellas.

Al realizar este TFG, también me he dado cuenta que al tratar ámbitos tan específicos, deberíamos de tener una formación en temas jurídicos. Es decir, sería necesario aprender a interpretar y a saber trabajar con las leyes para así poder realizar un mejor producto y poder entender mejor el texto original. En mi caso, he tenido que recurrir a la legislación de ambos países y he realizado la comparación de ambas mediante el derecho comparado.

Finalmente, me gustaría comentar que este trabajo podría haberse ampliado mucho más, ya que las sentencias dan mucho de sí y siempre se encuentran más términos especializados. La realización de este trabajo me ha servido para entender cómo están compuestas las sentencias, cómo se realizan las adopciones y las distintas figuras que toman parte en ella, todo ello tanto en Estados Unidos como en España, y lo complicado que puede ser traducir en este campo, ya que al tratarse de jurisdicciones distintas muchas veces no existen equivalentes exactos o simplemente no existe en la lengua de llegada.

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## 10. ANEXO

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
JUVENILE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:

CASE NO.: [REDACTED]

**JOHN DOE and**

JUDGE: CINDY S. LEDERMAN

**JAMES DOE**  
\_\_\_\_\_ /

### FINAL JUDGMENT OF ADOPTION

THIS MATTER came before the Court on Petitioner's sworn Petition for Adoption of

John Doe, born June 15, 2000, and his biological half-brother James Doe, born August 2, 2004. The Department of Children and Families moved to dismiss the Petition based on Petitioner's sexual orientation. The Court, having considered the record, testimony and arguments of counsel, makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

#### I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On December 11, 2004, two male siblings, ages four and four months, were removed from their home on allegations of abandonment and neglect and placed into the custody of the State. Searching for an immediate placement, the child protective investigator contacted Petitioner, a licensed foster caregiver, to inquire of his availability and willingness to accept the two children on a temporary basis. The investigator explained that the two children, John Doe and James Doe, needed, and deserved, a good Christmas. Petitioner agreed to accept the children, temporarily, until a more permanent placement could be found.

Twenty-months later, upon the termination of parental rights of John and James respective biological fathers in July and April 2006, respectively, and the termination of the parental rights of their mother in July 2006, the children became available for adoption. The children remained in Petitioner's care throughout the pendency of those proceedings and currently, while they continue to await adoption. Although all parties involved initially contemplated that the foster care placement would be temporary, the children have now been in Petitioner's care and custody for four years. John is now eight and James is four, the same age

John was at the time of the initial placement. Since the date the children were placed in care, neither the Center for Family and Child Enrichment ("CFCE"), nor the Department of Children and Families (the "Department") received any applications from prospective adoptive parents seeking to adopt John or James until this petition in September 2006.

Petitioner, the unmarried 45-year old<sup>20</sup> foster care provider of John and James petitioned to adopt the siblings to, among other ambitions, "provide a permanent family for them where they will be nurtured and well taken care of."<sup>21</sup> Thereafter, CFCE performed a positive preliminary home study as to the suitability of Petitioner as a

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<sup>20</sup> Age at the time of filing the Petition to Adopt.

<sup>21</sup> January 17, 2007 Petition for Adoption, ¶ 20.

prospective adoptive parent. However, CFCE did not recommend, and the Department subsequently denied, Petitioner's application for adoption. Petitioner is a homosexual.

Thereafter, on January 18, 2007, Petitioner petitioned this Court to adopt John and James and requested a judicial determination that the Department's only ground asserted for denial of Petitioner's Petition for Adoption under Fla. Stat. §63.042(3)(2008), which states, "[n]o person eligible to adopt under this statute may adopt if that person is a homosexual" be declared unconstitutional. Petitioner's claims attack the constitutionality of the categorical exclusion on equal protection and substantive due process grounds. Through counsel, the Children also assert equal protection, due process and separation of powers claims as to the constitutionality of the statute. The Department moved to dismiss Petitioner's Petition for Adoption arguing that the exclusion serves a legitimate government interest. That motion was denied. The parties tendered various witnesses, experts and arguments during a four-day final hearing in October 2008, testing the constitutionality of Fla. Stat. §63.042(3).

## II. FACTS

### *A. Arrival in the Petitioner-Roe home*

The children arrived at the home of Petitioner and Tom Roe, Sr., domestic partners, and

Tom Roe, Sr.'s then eight-year old biological son, Tom Roe, Jr., on the evening of December 11, 2004. John, the elder sibling, arrived with his four-month old brother wearing a dirty adult sized t-shirt and sneakers four sizes too small that seemed more like flip-flops than shoes. Both children were suffering from scalp ringworm. Although John was clearly suffering from a severe case of ringworm, the medication brought from John's home to treat his scalp was unopened and expired. James, too, suffered from an untreated ear infection, as evidenced by the one-month old, nearly unused, medication. John did not speak and had no affect. He had one concern: changing, feeding, and caring for his baby brother. It was clear from the children's first evening at the Petitioner-Roe home that the baby's main caretaker was John, his four year old brother.

On that December evening, John and James left a world of chronic neglect, emotional impoverishment and deprivation to enter a new world, foreign to them, that was nurturing, safe, structured and stimulating. Although Petitioner and Roe had fostered other children, caring for John was the most challenging of their foster care experiences. For the first few months, John seemed depressed and presented a void, unresponsive demeanor and appearance. Upon arriving at the Petitioner home, John did not speak a word for about one week. After two weeks, he began to mumble imperceptible utterances. After about one month, John finally began speaking. Petitioner quickly learned that John had never seen a book, could not distinguish letters from numbers, could not identify colors and could not count. He could not hold a pencil. He had never been in an early childhood program or day care. Nevertheless, John's potential for educational development was apparent. Although he had not had any formal education, John could sing and pick up lyrics very quickly. Early on, Petitioner and Roe noticed that John hoarded food by requesting additional servings at the start of dinnertime and later hiding the extra food in his room. John eventually grew out of this behavior, due in part to a tactic employed by Petitioner and Roe of showing John, in advance of mealtime, the more than sufficient amount of food on the stove prepared and available for the family.

James was a very happy baby and was content with anyone, even strangers. After approximately two months, James began to exhibit signs of attachment to his primary caregivers, Petitioner and Roe. John, however, took about two years to fully bond. At one time, John shunned hugs from Petitioner and Roe. However, in his own time, John developed bonding and today, initiates goodbye hugs each morning before going to school.

### *B. Petitioner and Roe*

Petitioner and Roe met in 1999 and began living together in July 2000. Petitioner, who has a Bachelor in Psychology and Masters Degree in Public Health, has worked as a flight attendant for American Airlines for 17

years. Roe has worked for Amtrak for 10 years. On their second anniversary, the two acknowledged their commitment before friends and family by exchanging matching rings at an informal ceremony at their home. Since that time, they have considered themselves spouses. They support each other financially by pooling their money into joint checking accounts. Both Petitioner and Roe's families support their union. At some point, Petitioner and Roe decided to expand their family. After considering surrogacy and adopting abroad they decided to become foster parents. Since becoming foster parents, Petitioner and Roe have fostered a total of nine children including John and James. When fostering, Petitioner says they treat their foster children just like a biological child. Petitioner describes Roe as nurturing and stable. Although both Petitioner and Roe parent the three children in their home, they made a strategic decision that only Petitioner should petition to adopt John and James, believing a two-parent gay adoption would be impossible. If Petitioner's petition to adopt is successful, Roe plans to initiate a second parent adoption at a later date. Nonetheless, Roe signed an affidavit committing to adopt the children alone should Petitioner die prior to the conclusion of the instant case.

### C. The Household

On weekdays, the household wakes up at about 6:30 a.m. Petitioner usually prepares breakfast, permitting each child to assist with an assigned kitchen duty. Each morning, the family eats together without distraction from the television. As each child finishes his breakfast, he puts his dish in the sink and proceeds to the bathroom to brush his teeth and hair. Petitioner and Roe purchased a Ford minivan, which Petitioner jokes was not his dream car, however, to accommodate the family size, is the most feasible. Tom Roe, Jr. is dropped off at school first. Afterwards, Petitioner takes John and James to school, walking them into their classrooms and usually speaking to their respective teachers. In the afternoon, after Petitioner picks the boys up from school, they generally go to the park for tennis lessons. At the conclusion of their lessons, the family heads home for dinner. At mealtime, the family blesses the food together and takes turns sharing the highlights of their day. Phones are not answered and the television is off during dinner. After the children are excused from the table, the older children load the dishwasher.

After dinner, the children spend one hour doing their homework. Although James does not have homework, he spends time at the table pretending to do homework. John requires more supervision and one-on-one interaction to complete his homework. If a child finishes his homework early, the remaining time is spent reading. After homework is completed, the children are allowed to watch television. At bedtime, the boys retreat to their separate beds.<sup>22</sup> By morning, however, James seems to always find his way into John's bed.

The family attends a non-denominational Christian church and have as pets, a dog, rabbit and kitten. John and James refer to Petitioner and Roe as "papi" and "daddy" respectively. John and James have lived in the same neighborhood, attended the same school, day care and aftercare since their arrival in the Petitioner-Roe home. As a result, each child has created friendships from school and in the neighborhood. John and James are closely bonded to Tom Roe, Jr., and their extended family. The boys consider Petitioner and Roe's parents, brothers and sisters their grandparents, uncles and aunts. The extended family sends the boys gifts for their birthdays and the holidays. Roe's mother, who lives in Tampa, visits the family regularly.

## III. PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENTS

The Children presented Dr. David Brodzinsky, a Clinical and Developmental Psychologist from Oakland, California as an expert in child clinical psychology, developmental psychology with a specialization in adoption, foster care, attachment and the adjustment of children in adoption. Dr. Brodzinsky was retained to conduct an evaluation and assessment of the children's relationship and attachment to Petitioner, specifically, as the Petitioner, but also to Roe and Tom Roe, Jr., as part of the family unit. Dr. Brodzinsky's assessment entails compiling facts about the children's history, observing and interviewing to determine the existence and quality of the children's attachment to their caregivers. In forming an assessment, the doctor also analyzes the behaviors and tendencies of the children towards the caregivers when stressed,

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<sup>22</sup> As required in foster care placements.

the verbal and non-verbal cues to determine whether the children view their foster parents as individuals capable of offering comfort and advice and, whether the foster parents offer a secure base for the children. Dr. Brodzinsky evaluated the family for six hours over a two-day period in May 2007, at home, during play, individually, during familial interactions and at school.

According to Dr. Brodzinsky, at the time of the assessment, the children were, understandably, slightly more attached to Petitioner, as the primary caregiver who also took time off of work to help the children adjust immediately after the placement. However, the witness also noted that the children exhibited strong signs of attachment to Roe and Tom Roe, Jr., who they consider their “daddy” and older brother. The children showed healthy signs of social development, in that, they were appropriately friendly, but not overly friendly with the witness, who tried to act as a non-participating observer. During playtime, the children rode their bikes after Petitioner reviewed the rules of bicycle riding. During the children’s play, Petitioner maintained focus on their whereabouts and surroundings. The witness was also privy to appropriate levels of sibling conflict, which were quickly resolved.

The children’s teachers, coined in the field as “collateral informants” typically provide useful information into a child’s day-to-day life, cleanliness, and parental involvement. Here, during individual interviews with Dr. Brodzinsky, John and James teachers reported that Petitioner and Roe were very involved in the children’s educational development. Due to the lack of educational support prior to arrival at the Petitioner-Roe home, John struggled in school and had to repeat first grade, but was progressing.

With regard to the children’s understanding of their family dynamic, Dr. Brodzinsky reported that, obviously, James has no independent memory of his former family or caretakers. John has a limited memory of his former family and sometimes confused interactions with his mother and aunt. John, who has had no contact with his sisters in about two years, stated that he misses them. While John did not understand the meaning of adoption at the time of the assessment, Tom Roe, Jr., comprehended the concept in an age appropriate manner.

Based on his assessment, Dr. Brodzinsky concluded that John and James would be emotionally devastated if removed from the Petitioner-Roe home. As Petitioner, Roe and Tom Roe, Jr., are the only family James knows and as John has not yet developed stability, a second separation would cause academic regression, separation anxiety, sleep problems, and trust issues. The witness also opined that it is in children’s best interest to be adopted by Petitioner, as opposed to maintaining lesser forms of permanency through continued foster care, permanent guardianship or the like. According to Dr. Brodzinsky, children, at age appropriate levels, understand that foster parents and guardians are not a legal family. The doctor does not consider Petitioner and Roe’s sexual orientation a factor in their parental abilities or the children’s wellbeing. He concludes that: (1) Petitioner and Roe’s quality of parenting is high and healthy; (2) the parent-child relationships are strong and healthy; (3) the resources and educational opportunities available to the children in the Petitioner-Roe home are beneficial; and (4) separation would cause emotional trauma to John, James and Tom Roe, Jr.

The Court also heard testimony from Ronald Gilbert, the children’s Guardian Ad Litem since June 2005. Mr. Gilbert, who has served as Guardian Ad Litem to over 100 children, visits the Petitioner-Roe household monthly to observe the children and the family. Based on Mr. Gilbert’s observations, the children are in excellent health, well behaved, performing well in school and bonded to Petitioner, Roe and Tom Roe, Jr. During his visits, the Guardian regularly sees the three children playing and hugging one another like brothers. Based on his interactions and observations of other foster parents, Mr. Gilbert believes Petitioner and Roe are model parents. In fact, he testified that in all of his 100 cases as a Guardian Ad Litem, the Petitioner home is one of the most caring and nurturing placements he has encountered. He further opines that adoption is the preferred form of permanency over permanent guardianship because John and James deserve parents. According to the Guardian, the children would suffer mentally and physically if separated from Petitioner, Roe and Tom Roe, Jr. The Guardian Ad Litem’s official recommendation is to allow the Petitioner to adopt the children and states it is in the manifest best interest of the children.

The Guardian Ad Litem Program presented the testimony of Yves Francois, Adoption Supervisor for the Center for Family and Child Enrichment. Mr. Francois was assigned to this case in December 2005. He testified as to



his personal knowledge of the minor children and the Petitioner and his knowledge of the policies and procedures for adoption in Florida. Mr. Francois confirmed that no one else has applied to adopt the minor children, and there is an adoption hold placed on the minor children until a final determination is made on Petitioner's petition to adopt, as is customary. The witness explained that a "permanency plan" attempts to place the children in a stable home environment until the age of majority. By definition, permanency is achieved when a child is reunified with his/her parents, placed with a permanent guardian or family member or adopted. Mr. Francois stressed that, when adopted, a child gains parents and shares legal rights with those parents. The witness reports that when it became evident that John and James were in a termination of parental rights case, their permanency plan became, and remains, adoption.

In October 2006, Mr. Francois performed a home study in connection with Petitioner's petition for adoption. According to Mr. Francois, although all aspects of the home study were positive, CFCE could not recommend adoption only because of the statutory exclusion of homosexuals as adoptive parents. Lastly, Mr. Francois stated that if the children are not adopted by Petitioner, rather than allowing the children to remain in foster care until they reach the age of majority, CFCE would recruit other prospective adoptive parents, which, due to the age of the children, may result in separation of the siblings.

## IV. EXPERT TESTIMONY

### *A. Psychological*

The parties tendered experts from all over the country to proffer testimony relating to the social, psychological, interpersonal, and physical effects of same-sex relationships on individuals, families, children, and to some extent, society as a whole. The Department argues that the homosexual adoption restriction serves the legitimate state interest of promoting the well-being of minor children, as well as broader, societal morality interests. To support their contention, one of the Department's two experts testified that the law should not include a blanket exclusion of homosexuals, rather a case by case judicial determination is more appropriate. The other expert witness generally testified that the law's restriction serves the best interests of children because when compared to heterosexual behaving individuals, homosexual behaving individuals experience: (1) a lifetime prevalence of significantly increased psychiatric disorders; (2) higher levels of alcohol and substance abuse; (3) higher levels of major depression; (4) higher levels of affective disorder; (5) four times higher levels of suicide attempts; and (6) substantially increased rates of relationship instability and breakup. Such factors, according to the Department, harm children of homosexual parents. Petitioner's expert witnesses countered these conclusions and suggested that: (1) homosexually behaving individuals are no more susceptible to mental health or psychological disorders than their heterosexual counterparts; (2) both heterosexual and homosexual parents can provide nurturing, safe, healthy environments for children; and (3) children of homosexual parents are no more at risk of maladjustment than their counterparts with heterosexual parents.

Petitioner presented Dr. Letitia Peplau, Professor of Psychology at the University of California in Los Angeles, California, as an expert in psychology with a specialization in couple relationships, same-sex couple relationships and violence within relationships. Dr. Peplau testified as to the quality and durability of same-sex relationships. According to Dr. Peplau, the research in the field suggests that the relationships of lesbians and gay men are similar in stability, quality, satisfaction, shared experiences and conflict resolution, to that of heterosexual married and unmarried couples. She points out that close, caring relationships are important for the psychological well being of all people, including lesbians and gay men and emphasizes that homosexual couples seek long term relationships and permanency by purchasing homes, supporting friends and families in times of need, and celebrating holidays together, just like heterosexual couples. Dr. Peplau further testified the break-up rates of unmarried, co-habiting heterosexuals and that of gay and lesbian couples were fairly similar.<sup>23</sup> According to Dr. Peplau, among all of the

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<sup>23</sup> Pepper Schwartz and Bill Bluestein (1970) reported the break-up rates as follows: unmarried cohabiting heterosexuals (14%), homosexual cohabiting men (13%), cohabiting lesbians (19%). Kimberly Balsum (2001) reported break-up rates as follows: married heterosexuals (2.7%), same sex

predictors of couple break-ups, including age, income, religion, education and race, sexual orientation is no more a significant predictor of break-up than the other demographic characteristics. Dr. Peplau opines that there is no basis for the assertion that gay people or gay couples have higher rates of domestic violence than heterosexual couples. In response to evidence presented of a number of studies reporting rates as low as 7% to as high as 60% or more, Dr. Peplau describes the results as inconsistent and inconclusive. In her opinion, one reason for such differential rates is the inconsistent definition of “domestic violence” used in the studies and the lack of population-based, representative surveys of the homosexual population.

Dr. Peplau also opined that the presence of children typically promotes stability in relationships.<sup>24</sup> As recently as 2004, the American Psychological Association, the nations leading association in the field, concluded that same sex couples: (1) want to have primary and committed relationships and are successful in doing so; (2) are no more dysfunctional or less satisfying than heterosexual relationships; (3) are able to form committed, stable enduring relationships; and (4) are affected by the same internal and external processes as heterosexual couples.<sup>25</sup> She thus concludes that the presence of children in a home of homosexual parents add to the factors promoting relationship stability.

In analyzing the divorce rates of various demographic characteristics such as ethnicity, race, education, income, and religion, Dr. Peplau finds that sexual orientation is no more a predictor of divorce than other demographic characteristics.<sup>26</sup> According to the research, an individual with a low level of education tends to earn less, thus increasing the chance of divorce.

If the individual is also African-American, the chances of divorce again increase. Thus, Dr.

Peplau concludes that the success of a marriage is affected by multiple characteristics, as opposed to one single factor. Therefore, according to the witness, the research taken as a whole, shows that any one demographic characteristic, such as sexual orientation taken alone, is not a strong predictor of break-up rates. In fact, as homosexually behaving individuals tend to be more highly educated and high income earners, sexual orientation is less correlated to break-up rates than race or income, for example.

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couples in civil unions (3.8%), same-sex couples not in civil union (9.3%). Gunner Anderson (mid-1990s) studied break-up rates of couples in Norway and Sweden where same sex couples may register as partnerships and reported the break-up rates for Norwegian couples as follows: gay male registered partnerships (8%); lesbian registered partnerships (11%). The break-up rates for Swedish couples were as follows: gay male registered partnerships (14%); lesbian registered partnerships (20%) married heterosexuals (8%). Bluestein and Schwartz (1970) study based on length of relationship reported as follows: for 10+ year relationships, the break-up rates were: married heterosexuals (4%), gay men (4%), lesbians (6%); for 0-2 year relationships, the break-up rates were: married heterosexuals (4%), cohabiting heterosexuals (17%); gay men (16%); lesbians (22%).

<sup>24</sup> Larry Burdick’s longitudinal study reported the break-up rates of couples without children as follows: gay male (19%); heterosexual couples (18.7%); lesbians (23.8%). The break-up rate for married heterosexual couples with children was 3.2%. Dr. Peplau notes that the difference between heterosexuals and gay men without children is not statistically different. Therefore, the presence of children is an important factor.

<sup>25</sup> American Psychological Association Resolution on Sexual Orientation, Parents and Children (July 2004).

<sup>26</sup> According to studies by Bramlett and Mosier (2002) and R. Kelly Raley & Larry Bumpass, based on the following demographical characteristics, the 10-year divorce rates are: Blacks (47%), Hispanics (34%), Whites (32%), Asian (20%); when same race (31%), when different race (41%); when married as teenagers (43%); when married over 30 (20%); less than HS education (39%-42%), HS graduate (35%-36%), more than HS (29%-30%), college graduates (20%); family income less than \$25k (53%), up to \$50k (31%), more than \$50k (23%); some religion affiliation (32%), w/o religious affiliation (46%); from intact family (29%), divorced parents (43%); military service members having served in combat (62%).

Petitioner also presented Dr. Susan Cochran, a Professor of Epidemiology and Statistics at the University of California, Los Angeles as an expert in psychology and epidemiology with a specialization in health disparities among minority communities, including lesbians and gay men, and in the use of statistical analysis in social science research. Among other aspects, Dr. Cochran testified as to the effects of sexual orientation on mental health and the prevalence of psychiatric disorders. As a general premise, elevated occurrences of psychiatric disorders and rates of depression and suicidality are associated with demographic characteristics, such as race, gender, age, socioeconomic status and sexual orientation. In terms of the specific demographic characteristic of sexual orientation, the witness cited to several population-based studies comparing the mental health of gay and heterosexual individuals including the 1996 National Survey on Drug Abuse, the National Co-morbidity Survey (1990-1992), the National Health and

Nutrition Examination Survey (1971-1975, 1976-1980, 1988-1994, 1999-2002, 2003-2004, 2005-2006), the National Examination Survey, the Midlife Survey of Adult Development (1995-1996), the Add Health Cohort study (1994-95, 1996, 2001-2002, 2007-2008) the California Quality of Life Survey (2001) and the National Latino and Asian-American Survey (May 2002 and November 2003). According to the witness, taken as a whole, the research shows that sexual orientation alone is not a proxy for psychiatric disorders, mental health conditions, substance abuse or smoking; members of every demographic group suffer from these conditions at rates not significantly higher than for homosexuals.<sup>27</sup> Therefore, based on the research, while the average rates of psychiatric conditions, substance abuse and smoking are generally slightly higher for homosexuals than heterosexuals, the rates of psychiatric conditions, substance abuse and smoking are also higher for American-Indians as compared to other races, the unemployed as compared to the employed and non-high school graduates as compared to high school graduates, for example. Poignantly, Dr. Cochran pointed out that if every demographic group with elevated rates of psychiatric disorders, substance abuse and smoking were excluded from adopting, the only group eligible to adopt under this rationale would be Asian American men.

With regard to life expectancy, the rates vary based on several demographic characteristics. For example, African Americans live five to six years less than whites; women live five years longer than men; educated white women live five years longer than uneducated white women; the financially privileged live four and a half years longer than their counterparts. The witness reports that there are no studies about the life expectancy of gay people because sexual orientation is not reported on death certificates. Based on her professional opinion, however, Dr. Cochran does not credit sexual orientation alone as a predictor of life expectancy.

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<sup>27</sup> According to state and federal data from the 2006 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, the 2006 NHSDA, Epidemiologic Catchment Area Survey (1980-1985), California Health Interview Survey (2001, 2003, 2005, 2007), the California Tobacco Survey (1990, 1992, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005) and the Center for Disease Control, the average rates of various types of psychiatric disorders and substance abuse for various demographic groups are as follows: major depression: American Indians and Alaskan natives (12%), non-Hispanic whites (8%), Blacks (6%), Hispanics (5.5%), Asian-Americans (3%), women (9%), men (5%), ages 18-25 (9%), over 50 (5%), homosexual men (17%), heterosexual men (8%), lesbian/bisexual women (27%), heterosexual women (14%); substance abuse/dependency: American Indians and Alaskan natives (19%), non-Hispanic Whites (9%), Blacks (9%), Hispanics (10%), Asian-Americans (4%), women (6%), men (12%), ages 18-25 (21%), over 26 (7%), non-HS graduates (10%), college graduates (7%); smoking- non-HS graduates (36%), college graduates (14%), Native Americans (42%), Whites (31%), Blacks (29%), Hispanics (24%), Asian Americans (16%), unemployed (19.5%), employed (10%), men (36.4%), women (23%), bisexual men (28%), heterosexual men (19%), lesbians (23%), heterosexual women (13%); alcohol dependency: homosexual/bisexual men (9.2%), heterosexual men (6.5%), lesbian (9%), heterosexual women (2.7%) -- noting the difference between the gay and heterosexual men is not a statistically significant difference; drug dependency: homosexual/bisexual men (7.5%), heterosexual men (3%), lesbian (5%), heterosexual women (1.5%); suicide: Native Americans (15%), Whites (11.8%), Blacks (6%), Hispanics (6%), Asian Americans (6%); suicide attempts: Whites (3.3%), Blacks (2.7%), Hispanics (3.7%); anxiety: homosexual men (5.6%), heterosexual men (2.8%), lesbian/bisexual women (11%), heterosexual women (4.5%); lifetime history of suicide attempts: homosexuals (14%), heterosexuals (4.5%).

Petitioner's final witness in the area of psychology was Dr. Michael Lamb, Professor of Psychology at the University of Cambridge, London, England. Dr. Lamb spent 17 years as a senior research scientist at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (part of the National Institute of Health) before moving to England in 2004 to serve as the head of the Department of Psychology and head of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Cambridge. One area of Dr. Lamb's 30 years of research focuses on the factors relating to children's development and adjustment. Dr. Lamb was qualified as an expert witness in psychology with a specialization in the development and adjustment of children, including children of gay and lesbian parents. Dr. Lamb stated that most families, today, are not traditional families. According to Dr. Lamb, there are three important factors that are predictors of healthy adjustment for children. One well recognized predictor of healthy adjustment is a child's relationship with his parents: a child is more likely to be well adjusted if he has a warm, harmonious relationship with committed, involved, sensitive parents. The second predictor is the relationship between the adults in the child's life. Children are more likely to be adjusted when the relationship between the parents is harmonious and positive. The third widely recognized predictor of adjustment is the resources available to a child. Children tend to adjust and better when they have adequate resources available and children who grow up in less well resourced homes are more likely to have issues with maladjustment. Providing additional insight into the development of the field in this area, Dr. Lamb points out that researchers once believed that traditional families provided the best environment for children. As the research developed, however, the notion was proven to be flawed, because the quality of the parenting itself is more important.

The witness testified that based on his 30 years of research and experience in the field, he can say with certainty that children raised by homosexual parents do not suffer an increased risk of behavioral problems, psychological problems, academic development, gender identity, sexual identity, maladjustment, or interpersonal relationship development.<sup>28</sup>

Dr. Lamb's work is consistent with other studies of same sex parents indicating their children are not more likely to be maladjusted.<sup>29</sup> As such, pursuant to the witness' testimony the assumption that children raised by gay parents are harmed is not a reliable finding. In fact, it is contrary to the consensus in the field. Although much of the research in this area compares children raised from birth by lesbian couples to children raised from birth by heterosexual couples, the witness believes the research would prove consistent if the samples included children raised by homosexual fathers. Explaining the literature to the contrary,<sup>30,31</sup> Dr. Lamb offers that such research is

<sup>28</sup> As also supported by studies included in and performed by the Journal of Child Development, Child Psychology, Journal of Family Psychology, Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry; Professor Susan Golombok, Professor Shana Patterson, Professor Cum Ta Rey Chan; Trial transcript, Oct. 2, 2008, p. 57 *l.* 19 – p. 62 *l.* 21.

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<sup>30</sup> R. Lerner and A.K. Nagai, No Basis: What the Studies Don't Tell Us About Same-Sex Parenting, Marriage Law Project (Jan. 2001) (reviewing 49 studies on same-sex parenting and finding recurring methodological flaws); W. Schumm, Re-examination of Evidence Concerning Child Development, reported in F. Tasker and S. Golombok's

<sup>31</sup> Growing Up In a Lesbian Family; K. Cameron & P. Cameron, Homosexual Parents, 31 *Adolescence* 757, 770-774 (1996) (P. Cameron was censured and ousted by the APA for misreporting results about homosexual parenting); J. Stacy & T. Biblarz, How does the Sexual Orientation of Parents Matter, 66 *Am Soc. Rev.* 159, 166 (2001) (although cited by Lofton as opposing homosexual parenting, Stacy and Biblarz concluded, "Because every relevant study to date shows the parental sexual orientation per se has no measurable effect on the quality of parent/child relationships, or on children's mental health and

unreliable, not methodologically sound, unpublished or published in non-peer review publications, and over-emphasizes non-statistical differences, among other methodological flaws. Additionally, the witness states that longitudinal studies reveal the same results as cross-sectional studies. Also, as to the contention that research need be conducted of

adoptive children raised by homosexual parents versus children raised by biological homosexual parents, Dr. Lamb rejects the idea stating that the predictors in adoptive and biological gay parenting are not different. Moreover, although adoptive children have an additional factor to consider (their prior background), this does not relate to the sexual orientation of their caregiver.

Relating to sexual activity and/or orientation of children of homosexual parents one study<sup>32</sup> revealed that female children raised by lesbians were more sexually active than males raised by lesbians. Dr. Lamb interjects that such results reveal only that children raised by lesbians are less strictly tied to sexual roles and rigid applications of sex roles. Dr. Lamb emphasizes that there was no difference in the age the children raised by lesbians began engaging in sex versus those raised by heterosexuals. Moreover, according to the witness, there was no significant difference between the sexual orientation of children with lesbian parents and those with heterosexual parents.<sup>33</sup> Although children raised by lesbian mothers expressed openness to considering same sex attraction,<sup>34</sup> Dr. Lamb explains that children of lesbian mothers tended to believe their parent would be more tolerant of a same sex relationship. Dr. Lamb states the import of the research revealed by the study is not that gay parents rear gay children, but more a lesson in promoting tolerance.

With regard to social relationships and peer adjustments, Dr. Lamb reports that children raised by gay parents develop social relationships the same as those raised by heterosexual parents. The research shows that children of gay parents are not ostracized and do not experience discrimination any more than children of heterosexual parents.<sup>35</sup> According to the witness, children have always and will continue to tease and bully their peers about their parent's appearance, employment, ethnic background, parenting style, or sexual orientation. A child that is teased views one reason no less hurtful than another. Therefore, Dr. Lamb concludes that the exclusion of homosexuals from adoption does not shield a child from being teased by his/her peers.

Lastly, Dr. Lamb opined that the assumption that children need a mother and a father in order to be well adjusted is outdated and not supported by the research. According to the witness, there is no optimal gender combination of parents; neither men nor women have a greater ability to parent. Additionally, today, two-parent households are less attached to static roles than in the past. Moreover, there is a well established and generally accepted consensus in the field that children do not need a parent of each gender to adjust healthily. The witness opines that the exclusion of homosexuals as adoptive parents is not rationally related to child adjustment. Rather, the witness believes the exclusion hurts children by reducing the number of capable and appropriate parents available and willing to adopt.

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social adjustment, there is no evidentiary basis for considering parental sexual orientation in decisions about children's best interest"); Zatieiros Zaranticos, *Children in Three Contexts, Family, Education, and Social Development* (Zaranticos is not a psychologist. The article was not published in a peer reviewed journal, but an Australian magazine. According to critics, the study fails to prove maladjustment of children raised by homosexual parents because of the failure to account for the divorce or separation many of the children had recently experienced and was likely the cause for their maladjustment.)

<sup>32</sup> Columbo study, Trial Transcript, Oct. 2, 2008 , p. 94, *l.* 12.

<sup>33</sup> Golombok study, Trial Transcript, Oct. 2, 2008 , p. 95, *l.* 17

<sup>34</sup> One-fourth of the children raised by lesbians were open to same sex relationships while none of the children raised by heterosexuals considered he option.

<sup>35</sup> Golombok study, Trial Transcript, Oct. 2, 2008 , p. 104, *l.* 11

To rebut Petitioner's testimony relating to the absence of negative psychological affects of homosexuality on individuals, relationships, parenting and ultimately the two children at issue here, the Department offered Dr. George Rekers, a Clinical Psychologist and Behavioral Scientist from Miami, Florida, as an expert in clinical psychology and behavioral science to include the stressors of homosexual adults. Dr. Rekers is also an ordained Baptist minister. The State of Florida has paid Dr. Rekers an advance retainer of \$60,900 for work performed on this case to date.<sup>36</sup>

Specifically, Dr. Rekers reported that in comparing several studies<sup>37</sup> on the quality of life with regard to mental health, emotions, physical health and vitality, homosexual adults have two to four times the odds of having a lifetime prevalence of major depression, affective disorders, anxiety disorders, and substance abuse.<sup>18</sup> According to Dr. Rekers, homosexually behaving individuals also have two to four times the odds of having lifetime prevalence of major depression and affective disorders in general.<sup>19</sup>

Regarding relationship stability, Dr. Rekers proffered that homosexually behaving individuals have a substantially and significantly larger number of lifetime partners and maintain fewer relationships over a long period of time, partly due to the lack of recognizable legal unions and social support.<sup>20</sup> He also submits that homosexuals suffer from higher rates of distressing conditions,<sup>21</sup> which may or may not constitute a disorder. He therefore suggests that since homosexual couples break-up more, children in these homes suffer repeated detachment due to the frequency of new partners. According to the witness, homosexuals are less able to provide a stable home for children than heterosexuals. Additionally, as foster children already have high

Psychological Distress and Mental Health Services Use Among Lesbian, Gay and Bisexuals in the United States by Gillman, Cochran and Colleagues (reporting that the odds ratio for thoughts of suicide of homosexuals is higher, 12 month prevalence of substance abuse disorder is higher for homosexuals. Of 2,844 subjects, 12 month prevalence of major depression for homosexual men was 41% versus 10% for heterosexual men; 12 month prevalence of two or more disorders was 2.88 times more for homosexuals than heterosexuals.)

<sup>18</sup> King and the BMC Psychiatry Journal (2008), "Systematic Review of Mental Disorder, Suicide, Deliberate Self Harm in Lesbian, Gay and Homosexual People, study reported that homosexual men have 2.58 times higher risk of suicide; 2.3 times increased risk of deliberate self harm; 2.41 times increased risk of 12 month drug dependence. Among lesbians, 2.05 times higher depression, four times higher 12-month prevalence of alcohol dependence, 3.5 times higher risk of 12 month prevalence of drug dependence, and 3.42 times higher risk of 12 month prevalence of any drug use.

<sup>19</sup> The psychiatric disorders discussed include major depression, bipolar disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, alcohol abuse, alcohol dependence, substance abuse and substance dependence.

<sup>20</sup> According to Edward study, regarding the number of break-ups and sexual partners study showed: heterosexual men (15.7), homosexual men (44.3), heterosexual women (4.9), homosexual women (18.7). However, it appears this study inquired of the subjects number of sexual partners as opposed to the number of relationships. The Social Organization of Sexuality – Sexual Practices In the United States, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London, 1994.

<sup>21</sup> Including suicide, relationship breakups, multiple sex partners, substance abuse. rates of psychological disorders, placement in a household with fewer risks is preferred. Furthermore, as children in homosexual homes are subject to more stressors than children in heterosexual homes, the doctor concludes that

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<sup>36</sup> Dr. Rekers also testified that he may bill the State for additional time.

<sup>37</sup> Same Sex Sexuality and Quality of Life, Findings from the Netherlands Mental Health Survey and Incidence Study, published in the Archives of Sexual Behavior, Volume 32, Number 1; Prevalence of Mental Disorders,

such conditions can lead to instability in the home and should be considered when contemplating adopting a child into a homosexual household.

During Dr. Rekers' testimony, attention was drawn to his authorship of a St. Thomas Law Review<sup>38</sup> article entitled "An Empirically Supported Rational Basis for Prohibiting

Adoption, Foster Parenting, and Contested Child Custody by Any Person in a Household that Includes a Homosexually-Behaving Member" wherein the doctor heavily cited to the conclusions of a colleague who is sharply criticized as distorting data and was censured and ousted<sup>39</sup> by the American Psychological Association for misreporting evidence regarding homosexual households. Although the American Psychological Association, has concluded that there is no difference between heterosexual and homosexual parenting, Dr. Rekers believes the Association's stance is political and not based on science. Dr. Rekers' much contested and hardly empirical article also cited to journals from authors who were neither psychotherapists nor social scientists.

There is no question that Dr. Rekers supports the continued ban on homosexual adoption and even the imposition of a ban on homosexual foster parenting based on the high rates of disorders, distressing conditions and relationship instability reported in the studies he considers telling. The witness testified that he does not support such a categorical exclusion of a demographic group based on one variable; rather, his opinion for the exclusion is based on an overall sum of variables. Thus, according to the doctor, any demographic group with overall high variable risks poses a threat to an adoptive child and should be excluded. As applied to the instant facts, the witness opines that Petitioner is in a high risk group; the majority of individuals sharing Petitioner's demographic characteristic of homosexuality suffer from a disorder or have the propensity to suffer from a disorder; therefore, even if Petitioner is studied to determine his individual risk factor, the prediction for his propensity to succumb to a lifetime prevalence of risk cannot be overcome. Based on Dr. Rekers' theory, as Native Americans have a high rate of alcohol abuse, substance abuse, domestic violence, depression, and a life time prevalence of these risks, Native Americans should also be considered a high risk group as prospective adoptive parents as well.<sup>40</sup>

Furthermore, according to Dr. Rekers, if children are bonded to a homosexual foster parent, such a placement may continue because the foster care laws permit regular monitoring. However, adoption should not be an option because of the absence of monitoring and safeguards. Dr. Rekers astounded the Court when he testified that he favors removal of any child from a homosexual household, even after placement in that household for ten years, in favor of a heterosexual household. To this Court's further astonishment, the witness hypothesized that such a child would recover from the removal from his family of 10 years after one year in a heterosexual household. The Court finds this testimony to be contrary to science and decades of research in child development.

As to the studies finding that the well being of children raised by homosexual versus heterosexual parents is more similar than dissimilar than the studies he relies on suggest, Dr. Rekers intimates that such studies are replete with statistical errors and should not form public policy. Dr. Rekers, in his role as an ordained Baptist minister has written books entitled "The Christian in an Age of Sexual Eclipse" (1981),<sup>25</sup> "Growing Up Straight: What Every Family Should Know About Homosexuality" (1982),<sup>26</sup> and "Shaping Your Child's Sexual Identity"

<sup>25</sup> Within which, Dr. Reker's states, "Non-Christian psychologists often encourage their clients to do form their own values regarding sexual expression. In doing so, they mistakenly assume that they are providing the most appropriate and sensitive counsel. In reality they are tacitly creating an impression that the universe was constructed with no moral law inherent to the system, but God has spoken. God has given us explicit instruction as to what his moral laws are. The psychologist who recommends that a person simply define his own sexual values ends up not being an advocate

<sup>38</sup> St. Thomas Law Review, 2005/2006, Volume 18, Issue 2, pages 325-424.

<sup>39</sup> Or voluntarily withdrew in lieu of ousting.

<sup>40</sup> See n.8; Trial Transcript, October 3, 2008, p. 143 l. 14.

of human freedom, instead he becomes a revolutionary, attempting to overthrow the moral laws of God. Instead of being helped, the client is therefore led down a fanciful path of alleged morality called, quote, liberation.” p. 14;

“An honest scholarly search for the truth about homosexuality should not stop with psychological or medical information alone. Wise professionals should also consider evidence for moral truth as well. The bible teaches that people are foolish if they deny God’s reality and live their lives as though he were not there.... What happens when psychologists and psychiatrists search for truth about homosexuality, but close the door to any possibility of information from the creator of the human race? What happens if scholars deliberately discard all moral evidence as irrelevant to their professional judgments? Roman’s describes the consequences in suppressing truth revealed by the creator.... Those verses indicate that the existence of God is evident within each person, so psychologists and psychiatrists who proceed as though he does not exist are deliberately suppressing truth. To search for truth about homosexuality in psychology and psychiatry, while ignoring God, will result in futile and foolish speculations.” p. 54-56;

Stating, “In my clinical training, as well as my experience as a university psychologist, I’ve been impressed by the devastating radical changes in sexual roles, which have occurred in America over the past 30 years. In the push and shove of these social changes, many kinds of individual problems have cropped up for men, women and children. Some unresponsive and insensitive husbands have failed to provide their problem masculine leadership in the home. Some women have allowed themselves to be sucked into the resulting vacuum, overstepping a more natural and supportive role in the home. This domestic upheaval has been labeled by many psychologists as the dominant wife syndrome. In other cases I’ve seen emotional or merely materialistic motives woe many mothers of preschool children out of their home and into the job market. This functional desertion has often caused serious emotional conflicts for their children.... Those who counsel people in distress have to be impressed by the clear correlation between the acceleration deterioration of the family unit, and the major changes that are taking place in our society’s conception of the male and female roles. Could it be that the wholesale American abandonment of the God ordained male and female roles has brought upon our families a destructive force that will ultimately disintegrate marriage and family, if not soon reversed. I believe that the family will self destruct in direct proportion to its retreat from the biblically defined male and female roles.” p. 12

<sup>26</sup> Including chapters entitled, “The Truth About Homosexuality” “The Trap of Homosexuality” “Liberation from Homosexuality” “The Search for Truth About Homosexuality.”

Within which Dr. Reker’s states, “wise professionals should seek God’s answer as well. When scholars disregard divine law, they deliberately suppress truth and result in foolish and futile speculations.” p. 54.

“As a psychologist who has counseled scores of homosexuals, I have observed the pain suffered by individual homosexuals who have been manipulated by leaders of the homosexual revolt. Alone the homosexual seizes the deviance of other types of homosexuals, and he can even feel the need to change himself. But the homosexual leaders use the manipulative techniques of classic revolutionary strategies to achieve their own diabolical objectives, to the detriment of the individual suffering the effects of sexual perversion.” p. 38.

“Homosexual activists seek to lure our children into a deceptive and destruction fantasy world that ignores the obvious physical, social and moral boundaries of sexual expression. Everything that the gay activists are working for stands diametrically opposed to everything concerned the parents stand for in seeking future family fulfillment for their children. Parents who are more aware of the tactics of



homosexual activists will be better prepared to protect their own children, from the ploys of these enemies of normal sexual development.” p. 40  
(1982).<sup>41</sup> Excerpts from those books are included in the footnotes below.

Dr. Rekers’ testimony was far from a neutral and unbiased recitation of the relevant scientific evidence. Dr. Rekers’ beliefs are motivated by his strong ideological and theological convictions that are not consistent with the science. Based on his testimony and demeanor at trial, the court can not consider his testimony to be credible nor worthy of forming the basis of public policy.

The Department also tendered Dr. Walter Schumm, Associate Professor of Family Studies, Kansas State University, as an expert in family child development, empirical and theoretical family studies and research methodology. Dr. Schumm also integrates his religious and ideological beliefs into his research. In an article he published in the *Journal of Psychology and Theology* he wrote, “With respect to the integration of faith and research, I have been trying to use statistics to highlight the truth of the Scripture.” In another paper that he co-authored with Dr. Rekers concerning the authors’ disagreement with homosexual practices, he wrote:

Within the limitations imposed by context, errors in translation and errors of individual interpretation, we prefer to accept the authority of the Bible as the best guide for sexual decision making, as well as for many other areas of life. We consider Scripture to be important, not because of tradition or institutional affiliation, but because after reasoned study, we make the assumption that they contain the wisdom of the Creator regarding the human condition and effective ways of relating to others interpersonally. In particular, we turn to the life of Jesus as a guide for our own value system.

Although Dr. Schumm is not a psychologist, a summary of his testimony is included in this section because he conducted a methodological analysis of the works of psychologists on homosexual parenting. When reanalyzing studies on outcomes of children raised by gay parents, he found some differences in outcomes as a factor of parental sexual orientation where the original researchers reported no differences (the null hypothesis). He suggests that his reanalyses, mostly unpublished, should be accepted over the analyses of well respected researchers in peer reviewed journals. Dr. Schumm admitted that he applies statistical standards that depart from conventions in the field. In fact, Dr. Cochran and Dr. Lamb testified that Dr. Schumm’s statistical reanalyses contained a number of fundamental errors. Dr. Schumm ultimately concluded that based on his reanalysis of the data, there are statistically significant differences between children of gay and lesbian parents as compared to children of heterosexual parents. Dr. Schumm understands that much of the scientific community disagrees with his conclusions and concedes to the possibility that some gay parents may be beneficial to some children. He does so despite his objection to allowing homosexuals in the military due to the ease with which they can have oral sex and his belief that, since homosexuals violate one social norm, they are likely to also violate military rules. Candidly, the witness does not agree with Dr. Rekers that homosexuals should be banned from adopting but rather states that gay parents can be good foster parents, and opines that the decision to permit homosexuals to adopt is best made by the judiciary on a case by case basis.

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<sup>41</sup> Within which, Dr. Reker’s states, “The gay liberationists have taken the deliberate ploy of pressing first for legislation to legalize the sexual behavior between two consenting adults. After they had succeeded in winning the emotional war of soothing the public’s queasy feelings about homosexuality activity among adults, the next planned step of the gay liberationists is to press for an elimination of laws of age discrimination, (in the terminology of the rhetoric of revolt). This means that the Gay activists are now beginning to press for the rights of the children to engage in homosexual behavior with adults. This will be their battle to legalize pedophilia!” p. 89.

## ***B. Medical***

Dr. Margaret Fischl, a Professor of Medicine at the University of Miami School of Medicine, Director of the AIDS Clinical Research Unit and Co-Director of the Center for AIDS, was admitted as an expert in the diagnosis and treatment of human immune-deficiency virus (HIV) and other STDs. Dr. Fischl testified the majority of cases of HIV are transmitted by heterosexual transmission. However, homosexual and heterosexual sex, as well as drug use account for the major means of transmission in the United States. Thus, Dr. Fischl affirms that HIV is clearly not only a gay disease. The doctor provided the most recent data from the Center for Disease Control; of current infections of HIV, approximately 50% occur among homosexual men, 35% occur among heterosexual men and women and the remainder occur among intravenous drug abusers. Further, CDC studies show that 25% of homosexual men are infected with the virus, while lesbian women have a low rate of transmission and are described as having no risk of transmission of HIV. Dr. Fischl reports that the rates of transmission for AfricanAmericans is 20 times more than Whites. Moreover, for African American women, the risk is 50 to 60 percent more than that of white women. Overall, women generally contract HIV heterosexually.

Dr. Fischl suggests, as HIV is an STD transmitted sexually or by blood, the risk of household transmission is low to nonexistent. Furthermore, due to medical advancements in the detection and treatment of HIV, most HIV patients taking medication as prescribed now have a normal lifespan and will likely die of something other than AIDS. Dr. Fischl concludes that HIV patients receiving regular doses of AZT can live a healthy, normal life and feel well enough to work and parent effectively.

## **C. Sexual Disorders**

Petitioner presented Dr. Frederick Berlin, an Associate Professor at John Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland as an expert in human sexuality, to include homosexuality, pedophilia, and child sex abuse. Dr. Berlin testified, among other aspects, that paraphilia is a sexual disorder defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Psychiatric Disorders (DSM) and that homosexuality as a paraphilic disorder was removed from the DSM in 1973. In times past, homosexuality was regarded as the effect of a domineering mother and a weak father. Today, Dr. Berlin reports that the leading professionals agree that homosexuality defines one's same sex attraction only. According to the witness, homosexuality was removed from the DSM because the evidence of it's classification as a disorder did not justify the conclusion.

As to whether the sexual orientation of a parent influences the sexual orientation of a child, Dr. Berlin testified that sexual orientation of a child is not affected by one's environment. He reports the majority of homosexual children are not from homosexual parented households although homosexual children in homosexual households are more willing to consider, expose and/or express their homosexual feelings. Dr. Berlin strongly opposes Dr. Reker's suggestion<sup>42</sup> that children in male homosexual households will be drawn to participate in anal sex. Dr. Berlin explains that children in heterosexual households do not determine their sexual orientation based on fanciful ideas of the heterosexual bedroom activities of their parents. Dr. Berlin stated that if parents could influence the sexual orientation of their children, there would likely be fewer homosexuals today.

Dr. Berlin explained that pedophilia and its subtypes are mental disorders in the DSM, typified by adults sexually drawn to children. By definition, an adult male who is attracted to male children is not a homosexual.

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<sup>42</sup> See n.21 for Dr. Rekers' St. Thomas Law Review article which states, "In homes with a homosexually behaving adult, children are more likely to experience the stress and associated harm of an ill-timed sex education that is not timed to match the psychosexual development needs of the child, but instead exposes the child to information about males engaging in oral sex, and inserting penis' into rectums, at formative ages, when those mental images can become strongly associated with sexual arousal patterns, predisposing the child to developing anxiety about sex, a confused sexual identity, or homosexual behavior. Knowledge of specific abnormal or deviant sexual practices is more safely introduced after the child has had the opportunity to develop a stable and secure gender identity and psychosexual identity." p. 377.

According to a study<sup>43</sup> performed testing the erectile movements of homosexual and heterosexual men when shown photographs of children in descending ages the results showed heterosexual men were no more attracted to girls than homosexual men were attracted to boys. The reverse appeared true in another study of adult men who were abusers of boys.<sup>44</sup> There, the data showed that such men were not also homosexuals and showed no attraction to adult men. Thus, the doctor reiterates that pedophilia and homosexuality are not analogous.

Dr. Berlin also clarifies that gay people are no more likely to abuse children, or be sexually attracted to children than heterosexual people. Dr. Berlin notes the author of the one study finding that homosexuals are at a higher risk of abusing children was censured by the APA because his conclusions were not justified by the data. He further testified as to the consensus that homosexuality and heterosexuality are not the consequence of a conscious decision a child makes and that an adult's sexual orientation does not normally change during his/her lifetime. According to the witness, environmental factors associated with a parent's sexual orientation will not likely result in an adopted child eventually self-identifying as homosexual.

Lastly, Dr. Berlin stated that if an individual is sexually abused as a child, there is no way to tell what type of adults that individual will be sexually attracted to. Accordingly, neither the American Academy of Adolescent and Child Psychiatry, the American Psychological Association nor Dr. Berlin, opine that there is a relationship between homosexuality and child sexual abuse.

#### D. Child Welfare Policy and Practice

Petitioner presented the expert testimony of Patricia Lager, a licensed clinical social worker and Professor of Social Work at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida. Professor Lager testified there are a number of characteristics which make up a good adoptive

parent but not one kind of family is best for all children; there may be situations where a single parent, disabled parent, ethnic parent or homosexual parent may be appropriate for a particular child. She testified there is a consensus in the child welfare field that any such categorical exclusion is not in the best interest of children, particularly since Florida has a shortage of adoptive homes. The witness recommends the usage of an individualized screening to determine a prospective adoptive parent's strengths and parenting abilities without regard to any one demographic characteristic.<sup>45</sup> She also testified that Florida's categorical exclusion of homosexuals would reduce the number of potential qualified applicants, however she did not know how many people in Florida had been denied the opportunity to adopt based on their homosexuality nor did she know how many more would petition to adopt if the exclusion of homosexually behaving persons was removed. The witness further opines that categorical exclusions of prospective adoptive parents results in multiple placements of children, causes children to suffer attachment disorder or age out of foster care.

Professor Lager testified the Child Welfare League of America and the National Association of Social Workers published position statements that homosexually behaving individuals should not be treated any differently than heterosexuals in terms of their ability to adopt. Professor Lager also testified that, in Florida, foster care is meant to be a temporary environment for a child. The next stage of permanency, a permanent guardianship, is more stable, but should not be the preferred option. The witness concludes, in the eyes of a child, true permanency is always through reunification or adoption.

DCF Quality Assurance Manager, Christine Thorne, interpreted Department regulations, operating procedures and practices regarding foster care including the eligibility requirements for foster parenting, placement of children in foster care with lesbians and gay men and the

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<sup>43</sup> Kurt Freund study (1973). Defined and repeated in 1984.

<sup>44</sup> Jenny, Carol et al, Are Children At Risk For Sexual Abuse By Homosexuals, Pediatrics, 1994, 94; 41 - 44.

<sup>45</sup> Absent sexual abusers.

recruitment of lesbians and gays as foster parents. Thorne essentially concluded that there is no law, policy or procedure that permits any one dependent child to receive disparate treatment from another child. She further testified that it is not the Department's policy or procedure to treat children placed with homosexual caregivers differently from children placed with heterosexual caregivers. The witness also acknowledged that children with homosexual foster parents could not be adopted by their caregivers while children with heterosexual foster parents could. Regarding permanency, the witness established that the optimal permanency goal as established by the law and the Department's policies and procedures absent reunification is adoption. Lastly, Thorne confirmed that the court must consider the opinion of the Guardian when ruling on an adoption petition.

Portions of Ada Gonzalez's deposition were read into the record. Ms. Gonzalez is the

Licensing Foster Care Specialist in District 11. Her testimony provided that it is the Department's policy to encourage foster parents to adopt children in their homes because of the established relationship and the need to maintain stability for the child. She stated that displacements from one home to another tend to have negative effects on children and are discouraged in order to prevent emotional and developmental harm. Ms. Gonzalez provided that it can be harmful for a child to switch families, schools and their social network. As to the Department's allowance and encouragement of homosexuals to become foster parents, Ms. Gonzalez testified that the Department advertises and recruits for foster parents at gay events and functions. The witness could not identify any harms to children from gay foster parents and identified the risk to the child from removal from a gay foster home to the home of a heterosexual family who is willing to adopt. Lastly, Ms. Gonzalez admitted the ban of homosexuals as adoptive parents interferes with the Department's ability to find qualified adoptive parents.

Portions of Gay Frizzell's deposition were also read into the record. Ms. Frizzell is the Chief of Child Welfare Services and Training in the Family Safety Program Office for the State of Florida. Ms. Frizzell pointed out that the Department's policies were "inconsistent" with regard to gay foster parents and gay adoptive applicants. Ms. Frizzell revealed that in order for a child in a gay foster home to receive the permanency provided by statute and aimed for by the Department, the child must first be uprooted from their current family, school, and neighborhood. The witness reasserted that adoption is preferred over guardianship because of the physical and emotional stability, legality, inheritance and familial relationship benefits afforded to adoptees. She also explained that adopted children perceive themselves differently than children in guardianship because adoptees feel a stronger sense of belonging and a legal connection to their parents that children in lesser forms of permanency can never truly feel.

## V. STIPULATED FACTS

Petitioner, the Children through counsel and the Department agree as to the following undisputed facts:

### *Eligibility to adopt in Florida*

1. State adoption law expressly permits unmarried adults to adopt children. Fla. Stat. §63.042(2)(b).
2. The State makes over a third of its adoptive placements with single adults. The percentage of adoptions of dependent children in Florida that were by single parents for the year 2006 was 34.47%. Respondent's Response to Petitioner's First Request for Production of Documents ("RFP Response") 19H.
3. Florida recognizes that single and married people can make equally good adoptive parents. Deposition of Kathleen Waters pursuant to Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.310(b)(6) ("Waters Dep."), at 70.
4. DCF and/or its agents recruit unmarried people to become adoptive parents. RFA Response 18; Waters Dep., at 70.
5. DCF and its agents will not approve an adoptive parent applicant who is not currently deemed suitable to care for a child based on speculation about the applicant's improved future circumstances. RFA Response 12.

6. Florida does not exclude single adoptive parent applicants if they state an intent never to marry. Waters Dep., at 69.
7. The State and its designees accept applications to adopt from married couples and from single adults. Couples married less than two years must be given particularly careful evaluation. Fla. Admin. Code section 65C-16.005(3)(e).
8. The State recognizes that for certain children, single adoptive parents are preferred, even over available married couples. RFA Response 23.
9. No person eligible to adopt shall be prohibited from adopting solely because such person possesses a physical handicap, unless it is determined that such disability or handicap renders such person incapable of serving as an effective parent. Fla. Stat. §63.042(4).
10. Adoptive parent applicants with serious or chronic medical conditions that could predictably compromise or could compromise the ability to provide the physical, emotional, social and economic support necessary for a child to thrive are subject to review by the Adoption Review Committee. Fla. Admin. Code section 65C-16.005(9)(1).
11. Florida does not exclude someone from adopting solely because of the fact that he or she is HIV-positive. An individual who is HIV-positive but healthy and able to care for a child is not excluded if, after having a physical and a doctor stating the applicant is healthy and the child is not going to go through another loss.
12. The Department may not place a child with a person other than a parent if the criminal history records check reveals that the person has been convicted of any felony that falls within any of the following categories: (a) child abuse, abandonment, or neglect; (b) domestic violence; (c) child pornography or other felony in which a child was a victim of the offense; or (d) homicide, sexual battery, or other felony involving violence, other than felony assault or felony battery when an adult was the victim of the assault or battery. Fla. Stat. §39.0138(2). The Department may not place a child with a person other than a parent if the criminal history records check reveals that the person has, within the previous 5 years, been convicted of a felony that falls within any of the following categories: (a) assault; (b) batter; or (c) a drug-related offense. Fla. Stat. §39.0138(3). Individuals with any such convictions are not barred from adopting children who are not placed by the Department and/or its agents. And individuals convicted of any other crimes not referenced in Fla. Stat. §39.0138(2) or (3) may be considered as adoptive parents even when the placement is made by DCF and/or its agents. Fla. Stat. §39.0138(3); Fla. Admin. Code r. 65C-16.007(4).
13. Applicants who have been convicted of any felony specified in section 39.0138(3) within the last five years cannot be considered for approval until five years after the violation was committed and then must be referred to the adoption review committee.
14. Applicants who have been convicted of any felony specified in section 39.0138(2) shall be carefully evaluated as to the extent of their habilitation. Fla. Stat. § 39.0138(2) and (3); Fla. Admin. Code r. 65C-16.007(4).
15. Adoption applicants who have previous verified findings of abuse, neglect or abandonment of a child are subject to a special review before they can be approved to adopt, but are not automatically disqualified from adopting. RFA Response 7.
16. Applicants who have experienced an adoption disruption or dissolution in the past are carefully evaluated but are not excluded from adoption on that basis alone. Fla. Admin. Code r. 65C-16.005(3)(d).
17. A social study which involves careful observation, screening and evaluation is made of the child and adoptive applicant prior to the placement of the child to select families who will be able to meet the physical, emotional, social, educational and financial needs of a child, while safeguarding the child from further loss and separation from primary caretakers. Fla. Admin. Code r. 65C-16.005(2).

18. Adoptive applicants in Florida seeking to adopt children who are in state custody are subjected to a home study, a reference check, a criminal records check, a child abuse registry check, and a medical screening. RFA Response 9; Fla. Admin. Code rr. 65C-16.005; 65C16.007.
19. Before DCF or its agents approve an applicant seeking to adopt a child, that applicant is individually screened to ensure that he or she can provide a safe, healthy, stable, nurturing environment for a child. RFA Response 10.
20. Unmarried couples are screened for relationship stability in the same way married couples jointly applying to adopt are screened.
21. Anyone deemed by DCF or its agents, after an individualized evaluation, unable to provide a safe, healthy, stable, nurturing home for a child is not approved to adopt a child in Florida. RFA Response 11.
22. The percentage of adoptions of dependent children in Florida that were by the children's foster parents in 2006 was 34.74%. RFP Response 19l.
23. DCF is a member of the CWLA and looks to its policies for guidance in developing best practices in child welfare. RFA Response 14.

### *Florida's placement of children with lesbians and gay men*

24. Lesbians and gay men are not prohibited by any state law, regulation or policy from serving as foster parents. RFA Response 1.
25. DCF and/or its agents have placed children in long-term foster care with individuals known by DCF and/or its agents to be lesbians or gay men. RFA Response 2.
26. DCF and/or its agents have placed children in the permanent care of foster parents known by DCF and/or its agents to be lesbians or gay men. RFA Response 3.
27. Lesbians and gay men are not prohibited by any state law or regulation from being legal guardians of children in Florida. RFA Response 4.
28. DCF and/or its agents have placed children in the legal guardianship of individuals known by DCF and/or its agents to be lesbians or gay men, and ceased DCF supervision. RFA Response 5.
29. DCF and/or its agents have placed children in the permanent care of legal guardians known by DCF and/or its agents to be lesbians or gay men, and ceased DCF supervision. RFA Response 6.
30. There are no special considerations applied if the home study reveals that the foster parent is gay or lesbian. Deposition of Ada Gonzalez pursuant to Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.310(b)(6) ("Gonzalez Dep."), at 63-64, 67.
31. DCF agrees that gay people and heterosexuals make equally good parents. Waters Dep., at 114.
32. The qualities that make a particular applicant the optimal match for a particular child could exist in a heterosexual or gay person. Waters Dep., at 88.

### *Florida's need for more adoptive parents*

33. Florida seeks to find adoptive parents who are able to meet the unique needs of each child who is eligible for adoption and provide a secure and stable permanent family home. Fla. Admin. Code rr. 65C-16.002, 004 and 005; Fla. Stat. Section 409.166(1).
34. Florida has set up several programs to increase the pool of potential adoptive parents. *See, e.g.*, Fla. Stats. §§ 409.166 (subsidies for adopting “special needs” children); 409.167 (statewide adoption exchange); 409.1755 (recruitment of adoptive parents for African American children); 409.401 (Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children to facilitate interstate adoption).
35. In 2006, there were 3,535 children in State custody and waiting to be adopted (RFP Response 19A) and as of March 20, 2007, 941 children were listed on the Adoption Exchange and had their pictures on the DCF’s recruitment website because more than 90 days had passed since termination of parental rights and no adoptive families were identified. RFP Response 19B; Waters Dep., at 30.
36. At any given point, there are about 900 to 1,000 children in Florida who need adoptive parents to be recruited for them. Waters Dep., at 29-30.
37. 165 children in Florida aged out of the system in 2006 without ever being adopted. RFP Response 19D.
38. The average length of stay for children in foster care in Florida before a finalized adoption was over 30 months (data for fiscal year 2005/2006). RFP Response 19C.
39. DCF agrees that the shortage of adoptive parents is a serious problem. Waters Dep., at 72.
40. DCF agrees that having a bigger pool of qualified adoptive parents would help DCF find families for medically involved children, teens, large sibling groups and children with mental health problems. Waters Dep., at 32.

## *Guardianship*

41. Where reunification with birth family is not possible, adoption—not guardianship—is the optimal goal for the child. Waters Dep., at 27; Gonzalez Dep., at 92.
42. Adoption is preferred over guardianship because it’s a cleaner legal resolution, it creates a forever relationship with the parents and stability. Deposition of Gay Frizzell pursuant to Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.310(b)(6) (“Frizzell Dep.”), at 57. In the case of adoption, a child feels a sense of belonging, that a legal commitment has been made to him. Frizzell Dep., at 58.
43. When children in foster care are placed in permanent guardianships with non-relatives, they are not entitled to adoption maintenance subsidies or Medicaid, which they would be entitled to if adopted. Waters Dep., at 28-29.

## *John and James*

44. John, who is 8 years old, and James, who is 4, had to be placed in DCF custody because their biological parents were not able to take care of them and extended family resources were already overburdened caring for the boys’ other siblings.
45. John and James were placed by DCF and its agents in foster care with Petitioner and Tom in December, 2004.

46. DCF and/or its agents were aware that Petitioner and Tom were a same-sex couple when they licensed both men to be foster parents.
47. John and James are now free for adoption. A final judgment terminating their mother's parental rights was entered on July 28, 2006. James father's parental rights were terminated on April 5, 2006. John's father's parental rights were terminated on July 25, 2006.
48. In September, 2006, Petitioner submitted an application to adopt John and James with the Center for Family and Child Enrichment ("CFCE"), an agency under contract with DCF to handle foster and adoptive placements of children in State custody.
49. CFCE conducted a preliminary home study in October, 2006. CFCE's home study report included the results of criminal and child abuse registry checks and reference checks as well as an assessment of Petitioner and Tom's character, health, relationship, ability to care for children and home environment. CFCE'S home study report stated that although the caregiver meets suitability requirements, he lives an alternative lifestyle, which by Florida Statutes, precludes him from becoming an adoptive parent.
50. On January 2, 2007, DCF sent a letter to Petitioner informing him that his application was denied based on Fla. Stat. § 63.042(3).
51. Since their placement in December 2004 with Petitioner and Tom, DCF and/or its agents have deemed this placement to be in John and James best interests. RFA Response 25.
52. Petitioner and Tom are providing a safe, healthy, stable and nurturing home for John and James and meeting their physical, emotional, social and educational needs. RFA Response 26.
53. John and James are bonded to Petitioner and Tom. RFA Response 27.
54. But for Section 64.042(3), Fla. Stats., DCF would have approved Petitioner's application to adopt John and James. RFA Response 30.
55. Ron Gilbert, the Guardian ad Litem for John and James, has stated his view that adoption by Petitioner is in the boys' best interest.
56. One case worker supervising the family wrote in his review of Petitioner and Tom: "Petitioner and Mr. Roe have been model foster parents throughout the duration of the dependency case involving this child. There should be more foster parents of this quality and caliber. If there were more foster parents like these foster parents, the system would work more smoothly!" Bates Nos. 2655-59.

## VI. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS OF FACT

Based on the evidence presented from experts from all over this country and abroad, it is clear that sexual orientation is not a predictor of a person's ability to parent. Sexual orientation no more leads to psychiatric disorders, alcohol and substance abuse, relationship instability, a lower life expectancy or sexual disorders than race, gender, socioeconomic class or any other demographic characteristic. Qualities indicative of good parenting include attentiveness, involvement in a child's educational development, the ability to soothe, offer comfort, advice and a secure base for a child, the provision of resources and maintaining a warm, harmonious environment. The most important factor in ensuring a well adjusted child is the quality of parenting.

Similarly, a child in need of love, safety and stability does not first consider the sexual orientation of his parent. More importantly, sexual orientation, solely, should not interfere with a child's right to enjoy the accoutrements of a legal family. John and James, due to no fault of their own, were removed from an environment



perilous to their physical, emotional and educational well being. Their biological parents relinquished them to the State, which in turn placed them into an environment that allowed them, eventually, to heal, and now flourish.

The quality and breadth of research available, as well as the results of the studies performed about gay parenting and children of gay parents, is robust and has provided the basis for a consensus in the field. Many well renowned, regarded and respected professionals have reduced methodologically sound longitudinal and cross-sectional studies into hundreds of reports. Some of the longitudinal studies have tracked children for six, ten and fourteen years. The starting ages of the children in the longitudinal studies has varied from birth, six to ten years old and followed them throughout childhood, adolescence and into adulthood. The studies and reports are published in many well respected peer reviewed journals including the Journal of Child Development, the Journal of Family Psychology, the Journal of Child Psychology, and the Journal of Child Psychiatry. Each of the studies and hundreds of reports also withstood the rigorous peer review process and were tested statistically, rationally and methodologically by seasoned professionals prior to publication.

In addition to the volume, the body of research is broad; comparing children raised by lesbian couples to children raised by married heterosexual couples; children raised by lesbian parents from birth to children raised by heterosexual married couples from birth; children raised by single homosexuals to children raised by single heterosexuals; and children adopted by homosexual parents to those raised by homosexual biological parents, to name a few. These reports and studies find that there are no differences in the parenting of homosexuals or the adjustment of their children. These conclusions have been accepted, adopted and ratified by the American Psychological Association, the American Psychiatry Association, the American

Pediatric Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Child Welfare League of America and the National Association of Social Workers. As a result, based on the robust nature of the evidence available in the field, this Court is satisfied that the issue is so far beyond dispute that it would be irrational to hold otherwise; the best interests of children are not preserved by prohibiting homosexual adoption.

The Guardian Ad Litem, the adoption agency and the assessing professionals agree that Petitioner and his domestic partner's ability to parent is excellent. The quality of parenting, the level of bonding and attachment and the thriving relationship of the children with Petitioner, Roe and Tom Junior is uncontroverted by all parties to this litigation. This Court has presided over John and James case since its inception. This Court has presided over 58 hearings in their case and has had the opportunity to observe the children, Petitioner, and the growing relationship between them. It is clear to this Court that Petitioner is an exceptional parent to John and James who have healed in his care and are now thriving. Accordingly, Petitioner, John and James should be permitted to permanently and legally share the emotional, psychological, and familial bonds of parentage. Nevertheless, based on the law of this state, only a finding that the statute is unconstitutional will permit this Court to grant the petition.

## VI. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Originally enacted in 1977, Florida Statute §63.042(3)(2008), provides, "No person eligible to adopt under this statute may adopt if that person is a homosexual." Since that time, the statute has survived several challenges<sup>46</sup> and has not been repealed. Recently, a Final Judgment of Adoption by a Circuit Court Judge in Monroe County<sup>47</sup> concluded the statute was an unconstitutional special law, an unconstitutional bill of attainder, and in violation of the separation of powers doctrine and permitted the adoption of a child by his homosexual former foster parent/permanent guardian. However, as neither the Department nor the Attorney General opposed the petition, that decision is not binding on any other court. Nevertheless, it is mentioned as of significance, clearly, to the

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<sup>46</sup> *Seebol v. Farie*, 16 Fla. L. Weekly C52 (Fla. Cir. Ct. 1991); *Amer v. Johnson*, 4 Fla. L. Weekly Supp., 854b (Fla. Cir. Ct. 1997); *D.H.R.S. v. Cox*, 627 So. 2d 1210 (Fla. 2d DCA 1993).

<sup>47</sup> In the Matter of the Adoption of John Doe, Case No. Redacted (Fla. 16<sup>th</sup> Cir. Ct. Aug. 29, 2008).

family involved, but also to sister circuits. It should also be noted for contextual purposes that Florida is the only remaining state to expressly ban all gay adoptions without exception.

Here, Petitioner attacks the constitutionality of the categorical exclusion of homosexuals as eligible adoptive parents on equal protection and substantive due process grounds. The Guardian Ad Litem, on behalf of the Children also asserts equal protection, substantive due process and separation of powers claims as to the constitutionality of the statute. This Court finds merit in the Petitioner and the Children's equal protection claim and further finds that the statute infringes on the Children's right to permanency pursuant to the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997, adopted in Chapter 39 of the Florida Statutes.

### ***A. Child's Right to Permanency***

Chapter 39 of the Florida Statutes requires the State to provide all dependent children with a stable and permanent home. The aim is to ensure that every child in foster care is placed in a permanent home as soon as possible. Fla. Stat. §§39.001(1)(h); 39.621(6). The law also provides that adoption is the preferred permanency option for children who cannot be returned to their biological families. Fla. Stat. §39.621(6). Furthermore, the federal Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 ("ASFA") (P.L. 105-89), 42 U.S.C. § 671, sets strict time limits for states to make certain children achieve permanency to prevent them from lingering in foster care.

Florida's statutory framework is explicit that dependent children have the right to permanency and stability in adoptive placements. Fla. Stat. §§39.621; 39.001(1)(h). The law is also explicit that there is a compelling state interest in providing such permanent, adoptive placement as rapidly as possible. *Id.* Florida's dependency and adoption laws thereby embody the substance of state and federal decisions that declare a child's constitutional right to a true home, and in the case of a foster child, to a permanent adoptive home. "Constitutional rights do not mature and come into being magically only when one attains the state-defined age of maturity. Minors, as well as adults, are protected by the Constitution and possess constitutional rights." *Planned Parenthood of Cent. Mo. v. Danforth*, 428 U.S. 52, 74 (1976); *In re T.W.*, 551 So. 2d 1186, 1193 (Fla. 1989) (approving *Danforth* as a principle of Florida constitutional law).

The legislature has recognized that permanency in an adoptive home is a foster child's right, and that the state has a compelling interest in achieving that result in the most expeditious way. Accordingly, when it exercises its *parens patriae* authority to remove a child, the State's actions must be in accordance with that child's best interest in achieving a permanent adoptive home. Laws that would interfere with a child's fundamental right to be free from unnecessary restraint, rather than aid the State's interest in achieving adoptive permanency for the child, are subject to enforcement as impinging on the child's rights. *See State v. Robinson*, 873 So. 2d 1205, 1214 (Fla. 2004) (laws that burden fundamental rights protected by the substantive due process clause are subject to strict scrutiny). Under Florida law, a child's rights are co-extensive with an adult's rights, unless there is a specific reason to protect the child that requires a limitation on the child's rights. *In re T.W.*, 551 So. 2d at 1193. A law such as the blanket ban on adoptions by homosexuals infringes on the foster child's right to be free from undue restraint and to be expeditiously placed in an adoptive home that serves the child's best permanency interests. Indeed, a law that subverts judicial process and imposes on the court the burden of taking action harmful to the child should be immediately suspect because the injury it imposes contradicts the legislative purpose and constitutional basis of the child's having been taken into custody by the State in the first place. It has been specifically recognized that when the State takes a child into foster care it is a restraint on that child's liberty. *Taylor by and through Walker v. Ledbetter*, 818 F.2d 791, 796 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1987). Florida's Supreme Court recognizes that the actions of the State in placing a foster child in residential treatment must be safeguarded by reference to the Fourteenth Amendment and the Florida Constitution's requirement that "[n]o person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Art. I, §9, Fla. Const. *M.W. v. Davis*, 756 So. 2d 90, 97 (Fla. 2000). The exclusion of gay people from adopting should not survive this impairment of foster children's rights. *In re T.W.*, 551 So. 2d at 1193.

The Florida Supreme Court recently reestablished the child's right to permanency doctrine and confirmed that adoption is the highest and preferred form of permanency. In *G.S. v. T.B.*, 985 So. 2d 978 (Fla. 2008), the court affirmed the recognition of the State's compelling interest in "providing *stable* and *permanent* homes for adoptive

children...and to *enforce the child's statutory right to permanence and stability in adoptive placements....*" *Id.* at 982 (*emphasis added*). In *G.S.*, the court considered whether it may deny a petition for adoption in preference for a lesser form of permanency in order to permit continued visitation by family members. The Florida Supreme Court, firmly guiding its decision by the legislative intent with regard to adoptions, reminds trial courts that the State has a "compelling interest in providing *stable and permanent homes for adoptive children* in a prompt manner...." Fla. Stat. §63.022(1)(a). Further citing to subsections (1)(c) and (3) of Fla. Stat. §63.022, the Florida

Supreme Court noted that the legislature took an affirmative stance regarding its intent; "[a]doptive children have the *right to permanence and stability* in adoptive placement" which provide "a permanent family life, and, whenever appropriate, to maintain sibling groups."

Further solidifying the focus in of adoption petitions, the *G.B.* court stated,

The issue is not whether the children should or should not be adopted or should live with the petitioners in some other form of custody such as guardianship. That decision has been made by the Legislature in favor of adoption over guardianship when adoption is available and serves the children's best interests.

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[T]he petition for adoption should be determined on the basis of the fitness of a petitioner who is petitioning to adopt the child and whether the adoptive home that would be provided for the child by that petitioner is suitable for the child so that the child can grow up in a stable, permanent, and loving environment. It is within those criteria that the determination as to the best interests of the child is to be made with regard to an adoption petition. *Id.* at 983.

There, as here, it was undisputed that the petitioners would provide the children with a permanent and stable home, which is the goal of the statutory scheme. Moreover, Chapter 63, as a whole, makes clear that adoption is the highest and preferred form of permanency. When a child cannot be reunified with his parents, either due to death or termination of parental rights, there is no substitute for adoption. *Id.* at 984. As such, in a case such as here where Petitioner is qualified and meets all the suitability requirements for an adoptive parent, all the parties stipulate that Petitioner and his partner provide a safe, healthy, stable and nurturing home for John and James meeting their physical, emotional, social and educational needs, and that placement is in the children's best interest, the *G.B.* court advises this Court to look no further.

The California Supreme Court also recognized that foster children have fundamental interests of their own that are subject to constitutional protection. *In re Jasmon O. v. Gavin O.*, 878 P. 2d 1297, 1307 (Cal. 1994). "Children, too, have fundamental rights—including the fundamental right to be protected from neglect and to 'have a placement that is stable [and] permanent.'" *Id.* (internal citations omitted). "Children are not simply chattels belonging to the parent, but have fundamental interests of their own that may diverge from the interests of the parent." *Id.* (internal citations omitted). "[A]fter a child has spent a substantial period in foster care and attempts at reunification have proved fruitless, the child's interest in stability outweighs the parent's interest in asserting the right to the custody and companionship of the child." *Id.* (internal citations omitted). Each of these statements from the California Supreme Court rings true, unsurprisingly so because each of these rights are familiar to Florida's statutory and constitutional framework for the protection of foster children's rights. The declared foster child's right to an adoptive home when the child is available for adoption is a fundamental right.

So too, a federal court has recognized that state wards are entitled to liberty from confinement in foster care. In *E.C. v. Sherman*, 2006 WL 1307641 (W.D. Mo. 2006), the court determined that a state funding classification infringed "on the fundamental right of foster children—their liberty interest in avoiding unnecessary government confinement—and cannot survive strict scrutiny review." This case appropriately relies on United

States Supreme Court precedent to the effect that the right to freedom from bodily restraint is a core liberty preserved by the Due Process Clause and any government action impairing that interest must be narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling state purpose. *E.C. v. Sherman*, 2006 WL 1307641 (quoting *Youngberg v. Romeo*, 457 U.S. 307, 316 (1982)) (“Liberty from bodily restraint always has been recognized as the core of the liberty protected from arbitrary governmental action.”). See also *Addington v. Texas*, 441 U.S. 418, 419 (1979) (civil commitment of child is subject to clear and convincing evidence standard of proof to satisfy Due Process Clause). The very premise of Florida’s dependency law following termination of parental rights must be consistent with the *parens patriae* responsibility of the state to achieve adoption for foster children unless their best interests are demonstrably shown to be otherwise. *In re Camm*, 294 So. 2d 318, 320 (Fla. 1974).

It is evident that public policy favors permanent family life rather than a mere indefinite length of protective custody. See *Hamilton v. Rose*, 99 So. 2d 234 (Fla. 1957). Even the *Lofton* court agreed, “Under Florida law, foster care is designed to be a short-term arrangement while the state attempts to find a permanent adoptive home.” *Lofton*, 358 F. 3d at 814 (quoting *Drummond v. Fulton County Dep’t of Family and Children’s Servs.*, 563 F. 2d 1200, 1207 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1977)). According to the most recent figures provided at trial, 3,535 children in Florida are eligible for adoption. As such, the homosexual exclusion is diametrically contrary to the permanency goal. Children placed in the care of homosexual foster care givers are effectively denied the primary permanency option available to other children whose parental rights have been terminated and placed in homes with heterosexual caregivers. This primary permanency option becomes a legal fiction to children placed with gay foster parents without reference to their best interests despite the law’s insistence that the State “ensure that permanent placement with the . . . adoptive family is achieved as soon as possible for every child in foster care....” Fla. Stat. § 39.001(1)(h).

Here, Fla. Stat. §63.042(3) violates the Children’s rights by burdening liberty interests by unduly restraining them in State custody on one hand and simultaneously operating to deny them a permanent adoptive placement that is in their best interests on the other. This Court cannot permit such a double-edged sword to continue to lie dormant in our state law, to the peril of children like John and James, without review. The challenged statute, in precluding otherwise qualified homosexuals from adopting available children, does not promote the interests of children and in effect, causes harm to the children it is meant to protect. Both the state and federal governments recognize the critical nature of adoption to the well-being of children who cannot be raised by their biological parents. There is no question, the blanket exclusion of gay applicants defeats Florida’s goal of providing dependent children a permanent family through adoption. The exclusion causes some children to be deprived of a permanent placement with a family that is best suited to meet their needs. As it relates to the case at bar, John and James were placed into the foster care placement of Petitioner by the State. The record clearly reflects that it is in their best interests to remain in this placement permanently and to be adopted by Petitioner. However, the statutory exclusion deprives John and James the ability to be adopted by their caregivers, to whom they are strongly bonded. Failure of the State to effectuate a permanent placement for John and James with applicants willing and qualified to assume the task creates the risk of severing the Children’s healthy attachments and causing profound long-term negative consequences to their development or relegating them to a childhood and adolescence without a permanent home in foster care.

It is clear that the statutory exclusion of homosexuals as prospective adoptive parents deters permanent placements for children in the care of gay foster parents. Alternative forms of permanency, such as guardianship, deprive children of the significant material benefits appurtenant to adoption including inheritance rights. Such alternate forms of permanency also do not provide the significant psychological benefits afforded by adoption including sharing a common surname or enjoying the sense of belonging to a family adoption provides. (Stipulated Facts, 42, 43.) In addition to the foregoing, the exclusion exacerbates the shortage of adoptive families (Stipulated Facts, 34-39), leaving more children, especially dependent children, without a legal family at all.

## B. Equal Protection

Article I, § 2 of the Florida Constitution states, in pertinent part, “All natural persons, female and male alike, are equal before the law....” Petitioner and the Children argue that the statute violates their right to equal protection under the law because it singles out homosexuals and children raised by homosexual caregivers for unequal treatment without serving a rational basis. Similarly, the Children posit they are not offered equal protection because one class of children placed by the state with heterosexual caregivers have the potential to be adopted by

their caregivers, while other children who are also adoptable, but placed by the state with lesbians and gay men cannot be adopted by their caregivers.

The equal protection argument of the Petitioner has been considered by other courts. In *D.H.R.S. v. Cox*, 627 So. 2d 1210 (Fla. 2d DCA 1993), two gay petitioners sought to adopt a child. Per Fla. Stat. §63.042(3), the application was denied. The men filed a state action to declare the statute unconstitutional on right of privacy, substantive due process, and equal protection grounds. Relying solely on copies of various law review articles, reports, editorials, and discussions appearing in magazines and journals submitted by the parties, the trial court granted summary judgment in favor of the petitioners as to the three constitutional arguments. On appeal, the Second District Court of Appeal overruled the trial court's findings holding there was virtually no evidence in the record to support a constitutional attack. The Florida Supreme Court agreed that the record below lacked factual evidence to determine whether the statute could sustain an attack as to its constitutional validity on equal protection grounds<sup>48</sup> and remanded the matter to the trial court for further fact-finding. The petitioners, however, did not pursue the case.

With regard to the evidence presented in *Cox*, the lack of "major scientific articles," the credentials and expertise of the authors, the quality and objectivity of the publishing journal, and the only "glimmers of answers" provided for by the available research caused pause for the reviewing court. *Id.* at 1213. The court further provided, "It may be that the legislature should revisit this issue in light of the research that has taken place in the last fifteen years, but we cannot say that the *limited research reflected in this record* compels the judiciary to override the legislature's reasoning." *Id.* at 1220 (*emphasis added*). The research reflected in the record in this case is far from limited and compels a different result.

Section 63.042(3) was also challenged at the federal level in *Lofton v. Secretary of Dept. of Children and Family Svcs.*, 358 F. 3d 804 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2004). There, homosexual foster parents attacked the constitutionality of the statute on various right to privacy theories and equal protection claims.<sup>49</sup> The *Lofton* court, nearly five years ago, acknowledged the question to be determined was not whether the research and experts "support" the legislative prohibition, "but whether that evidence is so well established and so far beyond dispute that it would be irrational for the Florida legislature to believe that the interest of its children are best served by not permitting homosexual adoption." *Id.* at 825. At that time, the *Lofton* court also reasoned,

Openly homosexual households represent a very recent phenomenon, and sufficient time has not yet passed to permit any scientific study of how children raised in those households fare as adults. Scientific attempts to study homosexual parenting in general are still in their nascent stages and so far have yielded inconclusive and conflicting results. Thus, it is hardly surprising that the question of the effects of homosexual parenting on childhood development is one on which even experts of good faith reasonably disagree. *Given this state of affairs*, it is not irrational for the Florida legislature to credit one side of the debate over the other. *Id.* at 826 (*emphasis added*).

As to the respective equal protection arguments, the failure to present any evidence in *Cox* 15 years ago and the weight of the evidence presented in *Lofton* nearly five year ago are both cited as the grounds for the courts' inability to find the statute unconstitutional as violative of the equal protection of the U.S. and Florida Constitutions. However, today, based on the developments in the fields of social science, psychology, human sexuality, social work and medicine, the existence of additional studies, the re-analysis and peer review of prior studies, the endorsements by the major psychological, psychiatry, child welfare and social work associations, and the now, consensus based on widely accepted results of respected studies by qualified experts, the issue of

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<sup>48</sup> The court upheld the District Court's findings as to the substantive due process and vagueness grounds.

<sup>49</sup> Under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

whether Fla. Stat. §63.042(3) violates the equal protection of homosexuals and children adoptable by homosexuals, is again ripe for consideration.

## 1. Rational Basis Review

This matter does not involve a fundamental right or a suspect class and is thus reviewed under the rational basis test.<sup>50</sup> *Lofton v. Sec., Dep't of Children and Families*, 358 F. 3d 804, 818 (11th Cir. 2004) (“A constitutional equal protection challenge to a statute that does not involve a fundamental right or suspect classification is evaluated by the rational relationship test.”).

Additionally, Petitioner, as the challenger of the constitutionality of a statute, has the heavy burden to prove the statute unconstitutional. *Chicago Title Ins. Co. v. Butler*, 770 So. 2d 1210, 1214 (Fla. 2000); *Lasky v. State Farm Insurance Co.*, 296 So. 2d 9, 15 (Fla. 1974). States are not required to convince the courts of the correctness of their legislative judgments. Rather, those challenging the legislative judgment must convince the court that the legislative facts on which the classification is apparently based could not reasonably be conceived to be true by the governmental decision maker. See *Florida Hometown Democracy, Inc., v. Cobb*, 953 So. 2d 666, 676 (Fla. 1st DCA 2007), citing *Minnesota v. Clover Leaf Creamery Co.*, 449 U.S. 456 (1981). Under rational basis scrutiny, §63.042(3) must be upheld if there is any reasonably conceivable set of facts that could provide a rational basis for the classification. *FCC v. Beach Communications*, 508 U.S. 307, 313 (1993). If any doubt exists as to the validity of the law, it must be resolved in favor of constitutionality when reasonably possible. *Dep't of Law Enforcement v. Real Prop.*, 588 So. 2d 957, 961 (Fla. 1991); *State v. Yocum*, 186 So. 448, 451 (Fla. 1939). Therefore, Petitioner and the Children must show that the statute discriminates against homosexuals and children without a rational basis for the discrimination. *Id.* at 676, citing *McElrath v. Burley*, 707 So. 2d 836, 839 (Fla. 1st DCA 1998).

## 2. Florida's Rational Basis

While the Court agrees the burden is on Petitioner, a presentation of the State's legitimate governmental interest provides a helpful outline for a discussion of Petitioner's arguments. First, the Department argues that the homosexual adoption restriction serves the legitimate state interests of promoting the well-being of minor children. According to the Department, the law's restriction serves the best interests of children because when compared to heterosexual behaving individuals, homosexual behaving individuals experience higher levels of stressors disadvantageous to children. Second, the State also aims to protect the best interest of children by placing them in an adoptive home which minimizes social stigmatization. A third basis for the State's ban on homosexual adoption is its protection of societal moral interests of the child.

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<sup>50</sup> In *People v. Garcia*, 77 P. 2d 1269 (Cal. 4<sup>th</sup> Ct. App. 2000), the California Supreme Court held that homosexuals comprise a suspect class deserving of strict scrutiny analysis in the equal protection context. In reaching its conclusion the Garcia court found in order to establish a case of impermissible exclusion for equal protection purposes, the party must show that he was a member of a “cognizable group” and that exclusion of members of that group was systematic. citing *Batson v. Kentucky* (1986) 476 U.S. 79, 96 (1986). The court defined a cognizable group as “one that is a recognizable, distinct class, singled out for different treatment under the laws, as written or as applied.” quoting *Castaneda v. Partida*, 430 U.S. 482, 494 (1977). The Garcia court further determined that lesbians and gay men qualify under this standard and “share a history of persecution comparable to that of Blacks and women. While there is room to argue about degree, based upon their number and the relative indiscernibility of their membership in the group, it is just that: an argument about degree. It is a matter of quantity, not quality.” *Id.* at 1276. This Court finds the foregoing persuasive, but ultimately that based on Florida precedent, the statute in the case at bar fails qualification under the strict scrutiny test.

i. **Promoting the well-being of children**

The Department argues Fla. Stat. §63.042(3) is rationally related to Florida's interest by protecting children from the undesirable realities of the homosexual lifestyle. However, as thoroughly summarized in the Findings of Fact section of this Final Judgment, the foregoing is, frankly, false.<sup>51</sup>

Obviously, in order to be considered rationally related to a governmental interest, the distinctions between individuals may not be based on unsubstantiated assumptions. *U. S. Dept. of Agriculture v. Moreno*, 413 U.S. 528, 535 (1973). Based on the statistics, there are no set of facts for which such a stated interest can be reasonably conceived of to justify the legislation. *Panama City Med. Diagnostic Lt. v. Williams*, 13 F. 3d 1541, 1545 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1994). Fortunate for the Department, the government has no obligation to produce evidence to sustain the rationality of the statutory classification. *Heller v. Doe*, 509 U.S. 312, 320 (1993). Here, the two witnesses proffered by the Department failed to offer any reasonable, credible evidence to substantiate their beliefs or to justify the legislation. Viewing the statute from this point of view clearly renders it "illogical to the point of irrationality." *Lofton v. Secretary of Dept. of Children and Family Services*, 377 F. 3d 1275, 1293 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2004), J. Barkett's dissent

(quoting *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 405 U.S. 438, 451 (1972)). Any exclusion that would declassify an entire group of people based on identical factors is clearly "both discriminatory and overbroad." *Id.* at 1294. See also *City of Cleburne v. Cleburne Living Ctr., Inc.*, 473 U.S. 432 (1985)(when a statute imposes a classification on one group, the failure to impose the same classification on other groups is probative of a lack of rational basis.). Interestingly, in distinguishing *Cleburne*, the *Lofton* court posited that homosexuals were not similarly situated as heterosexuals, citing a 1987 New Hampshire Supreme Court decision holding that a similar statute was rationally related. However, in 1999, the New Hampshire legislature removed its prohibition of adoption and foster parenting by homosexuals.<sup>52</sup> Nevertheless, here, the evidence proves quite the contrary; homosexuals are no more susceptible to mental health or psychological disorders, substance or alcohol abuse or relationship instability than their heterosexual counterparts.

Accordingly, such governmental interest does not justify the legislation. ii.

**Social Stigmatization/Necessity of dual gender homes**

The Department next claims that best interests of children are served by placing them in an adoptive home which minimizes the social stigmatization they may experience. Again applying rational basis review, this Court rejects the Department's attempt to justify the statute by reference to a supposed dark cloud hovering over homes of homosexuals and their children. Neither the judiciary, nor the legislature are experts in psychology, psychiatry or child development. As such, we must rely on the professionals in those areas to provide an assessment of the relevant science. Since, the adoption of the statute in 1977, *Cox* in 1993, *Amer* in 1997 or even *Lofton* in 2004, the amount and quality of the relevant research and literature is robust. As expressed by the Florida Supreme Court in *Cox*, the legislature should revisit this issue in light of the research that has taken place in the last fifteen years. In this regard, the professionals and the major associations now agree there is a well established and accepted consensus in the field that there is no optimal gender combination of parents. As such, the statute is no longer rationally related to serve this interest.

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<sup>51</sup> See n. 7 and 8. For example, according to the rates recorded by six studies and the records of federal agencies, the top three sufferers of substance abuse and dependency among all demographic classifications are 18-25 year olds (21%), American Indians and Alaskan natives (19%), and men (12%); the top three groups of smokers are Native Americans (42%), non-HS graduates (36%), and Whites (31%); the top three break-up rates of groups in relationships lasting 10 or more years are military service members having served in combat (62%), Blacks (47%), those when married as teenagers (43%) and those whose parents are divorced (43%).

### iii. Morality

The Department's final rationale is that §63.042(3) rationally relates to Florida's legitimate moral interest to promote public morality. However, public morality per se, disconnected from any separate legitimate interest, is not a legitimate government interest to justify unequal treatment. *Lawrence v. Texas*, 539 U.S. 558, 582 (2003); *In re Fla. Bar*

*Examiners, In re Eimers*, 358 So. 2d 7 (Fla. 1978); *State v. Limon*, 122 P.3d 22 (Kan. 2005). (O'Connor, J., concurring); *Jegley v. Picado*, 80 S.W.3d 332 (Ark. 2002). In other words, promoting public morals, in and of itself, does not rescue the statute from constitutional infirmity. Under the rational basis test, a classification can only be upheld if it "bears a reasonable relationship to a permissive legislative objective and is not discriminatory, arbitrary, or oppressive." *Abdala v. World Omni Leasing, Inc.*, 583 So. 2d 330, 333 (Fla. 1991).

Nevertheless, a public morality interest is inapplicable in the adoption context. Electing to parent and assume full responsibility for a child not one's own is one of the most noble decisions made in a lifetime; it is respected by many, considered by some, made by few and approved for fewer still. Here Petitioner qualifies for approval as an adoptive parent in all respects but one; his sexual orientation. The Department's position is that homosexuality is immoral. Yet, homosexuals may be lawful foster parents in Florida and care for our most fragile children who have been abused, neglected and abandoned. As such, the exclusion forbidding homosexuals to adopt children does not further the public morality interest it seeks to combat. Based on this scenario, there can be no rationally related public morality interest differentiating in the State's support of a homosexual's long-term foster care relationship with a child and a denial of their legal relationship through adoption. Consequently, there is no "morality" interest with regard to one group of individuals permitted to form the visage of a family in one context but prohibited in another. The contradiction between the adoption and foster care statutes defeats the public morality argument and is thus not rationally related to serving a governmental interest. *See City of Cleburne v. Cleburne Living Center*, 473 U.S. 432, 448-50 (1985) (unless the group that is singled out poses a special issue not posed by other non-burdened groups, the classification fails rational basis review).

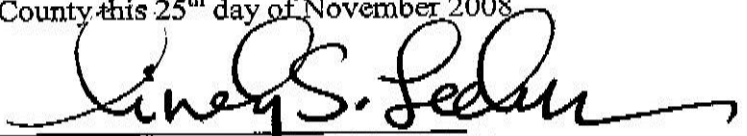
## VII. CONCLUSION

This Court finds Fla. Stat. §63.042(3) violates the Petitioner and the Children's equal protection rights guaranteed by Article I, § 2 of the Florida Constitution without satisfying a rational basis. Moreover, the statutory exclusion defeats a child's right to permanency as provided by federal and state law pursuant to the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED and ADJUDGED that John Doe and James Doe be declared the legal children of Petitioner. The Children shall from this day forth assume the names JOHN DOE and JAMES DOE and by such names shall be hereafter known. A consent to adoption by the minors' birth parents is not required due to the prior termination of their parental rights. This Final Judgment of Adoption terminates all legal relationships between the Children and their former relatives for all purposes including inheritance. This Final Judgment of Adoption now and forever creates a filial relationship between Petitioner, JOHN DOE and JAMES DOE. This relationship is hereby created for all purposes including inheritance and applicability of statutes, documents and instruments.



DONE and ORDERED in Miami-Dade County this 25<sup>th</sup> day of November 2008

  
HONORABLE CINDY S. LEDERMAN  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

Copies furnished to:

**JUZGADO DE 1ª INSTANCIA Nº 4 DE LA BISBAL D' EMPORDÀ**  
Teatre Vell, 12  
17100 La Bisbal d'Empordà

**Procedimiento: Adopción nº 695/2013.**

**Parte actora: XXXX**

**Procurador/a: XXXX**

**Ministerio Fiscal**

### **AUTO 195/13**

En La Bisbal d'Empordà, a 18 de diciembre de 2.013,

### **ANTECEDENTES DE HECHO**

**Primero.-** Por la representación procesal de Dª. XXXX se presentó el 11 de noviembre de 2013 escrito solicitando la adopción de XXXX y XXXX, menores de edad, e hijos adoptivos de su pareja de hecho, Dª. XXXX.

Mediante Diligencia de Ordenación de 15 de noviembre de 2013, se tuvo por presentado escrito incoando expediente de jurisdicción voluntaria de adopción y citando a la instante para comparecer el día 28 de noviembre de 2013 ante este Juzgado y prestar su asentimiento a la adopción.

**Segundo.-** El 28 de noviembre de 2013 compareció en este Juzgado Dª. XXXX prestando su consentimiento a la adopción, asimismo, Dª. XXXX ofreció su asentimiento a la adopción por comparecencia de la misma fecha.

Mediante Diligencia de Ordenación de esa misma fecha se dio traslado al Ministerio Fiscal para emitir correspondiente informe.

El 10 de diciembre de 2013, el Ministerio Fiscal emitió informe en el sentido de no oponerse a la adopción interesada.

Mediante Diligencia de Ordenación de 12 de diciembre de 2013 quedaron las actuaciones pendientes de resolución.

### **RAZONAMIENTOS JURIDICOS**

**Primero.-** La Ley de Enjuiciamiento Civil de 1881, en su Libro III ("De la Jurisdicción Voluntaria"), vigente hasta la entrada en vigor de la Ley que regule este tipo de jurisdicción, según la Disposición Derogatoria única, 1.1º, de la nueva LEC, regula en los artículos 1829 y siguientes el procedimiento de jurisdicción voluntaria sobre adopción, que se ha de conjugar con los artículos 175 a 180 del Código Civil y en especial 235-30 a 235-52 del Código Civil de Cataluña (libro segundo aprobado por Ley 25/2010 de 29 de julio del Parlamento de Cataluña).

**Segundo.-** En el presente caso, se ha dado cumplimiento a lo dispuesto en el artículo 1829 de la LEC de 1881, en cuanto a los trámites legales exigibles, y se está en el caso previsto en los artículos 235-30.1 del

Código Civil de Cataluña, en cuanto a las personas que pueden adoptar (ya que la adoptante cumple los requisitos del mismo) y 235-32.1a), en cuanto a las personas que pueden ser adoptadas y 235-40 y 235-41 del mismo texto legal, en cuanto a la prestación del consentimiento y asentimiento a la adopción, lo que se efectuó por comparecencia en este Juzgado el 28 de noviembre de 2013.

Por lo tanto, cumplidos los trámites legales, no concurriendo impedimento alguno, sin oposición del Ministerio Fiscal, es por lo que, conforme dispone el artículo 235-39 y 235-51 del Código Civil de Cataluña, procede acordar la adopción de XXXX, nacido en XXXX (Etiopía) en fecha 25 de enero de 2003 y XXXX, nacida en XXXX (Etiopía) en fecha 29 de noviembre de 2006 por parte de D<sup>a</sup>. XXXX, con carácter irrevocable y con todos los efectos legales inherentes a dicha declaración.

**Tercero.-** De conformidad con lo dispuesto en el artículo del 235-48. 1 y 2 del Código Civil de Cataluña, y atendiendo a lo manifestado en el suplico de la demanda, los menores XXXX y XXXX pasarán a llevar los apellidos XXXX.

Vistos los artículos citados y demás de general y pertinente aplicación ,

**DISPONGO.-** Que **ACUERDO** la adopción de XXXX y XXXX, menores de edad, por parte de D<sup>a</sup>. XXXX, con todos los efectos legales inherentes a dicha declaración. Los menores pasarán a llamarse a partir de este momento XXXX y XXXX.

Comuníquese al Registro Civil a los efectos legales oportunos.

Notifíquese la presente resolución al Ministerio Fiscal y a las demás partes de este procedimiento haciéndoles saber que contra la misma cabe interponer recurso de apelación en ambos efectos.

Así lo acuerda, manda y firma, D. XXXX, Juez del Juzgado de 1<sup>a</sup> Instancia nº 4 de La Bisbal d'Empordà.

**DILIGENCIA.-** Para hacer constar que la anterior resolución ha sido dictada por el Juez que la suscribe, estando celebrando audiencia pública en el día de su fecha. Doy fe.